



NOTHING
MORE,
NOTHING
LESS.

JUST
WHAT
I
SAID.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN
BY
THAT?

YOU SAY
YOU'RE
THE
"FIRST
HOMUN-
CULUS."

ZU ZOOOP ZOOOP



YOU'RE
PLANNING
TO DRAW
AS MUCH
INFORMATION
OUT OF
ME AS
POSSIBLE,
AREN'T
YOU?

YOU'RE
TRULY
BRAVE, LT.
HAWKEYE.



IS
THAT
SO?
WHAT
A
SHAME.

WELL
THEN...

ZU



YOU
MUST
BE
JOKING
!

WHAT YOU
WANT ARE
CONVENIENT
PAWNS,
NOT
ALLIES.



IMPRES-
SIVE.

WHY
DON'T
YOU
JOIN
OUR
SIDE?

ZOOOP



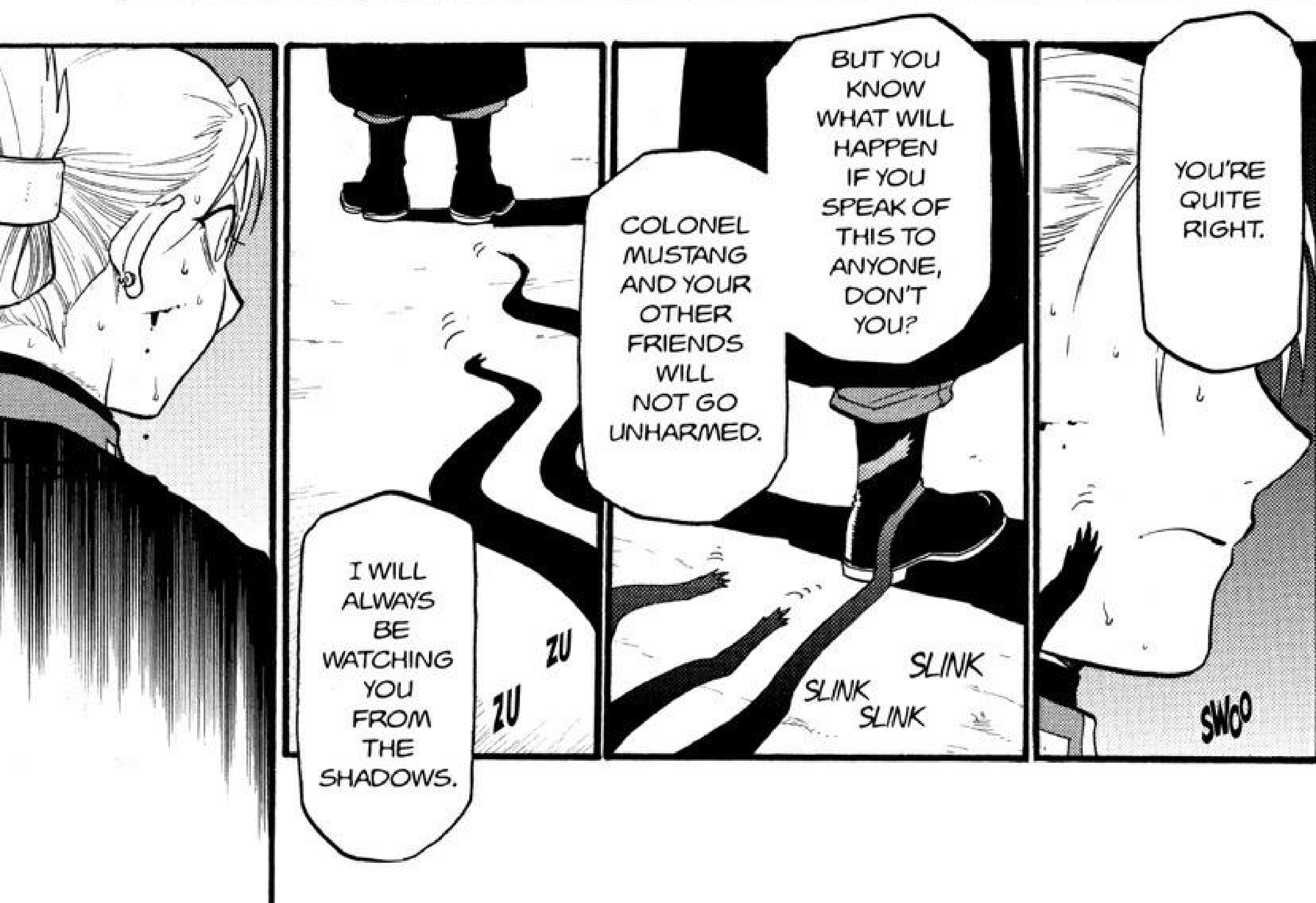
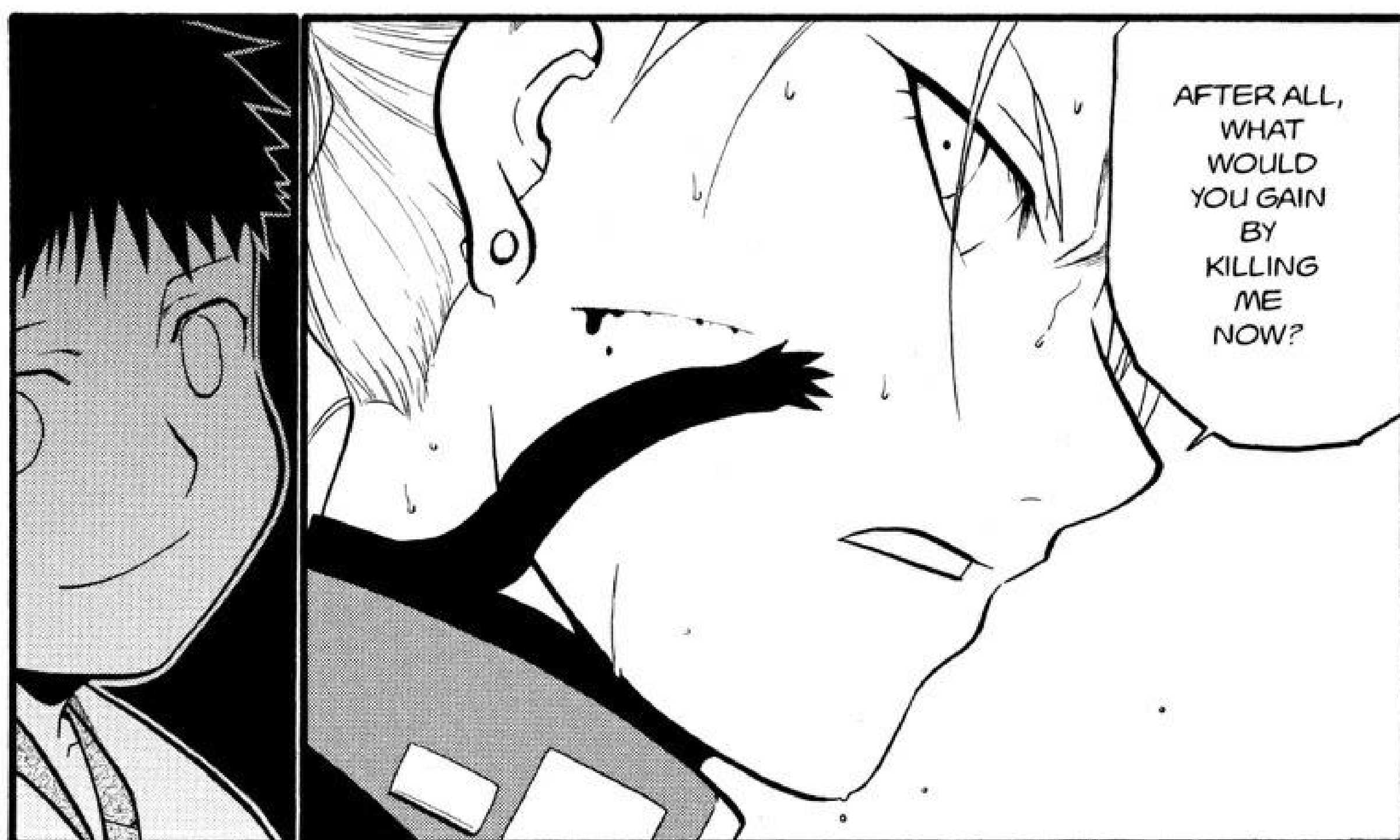
SWOO



SWOO SWOO



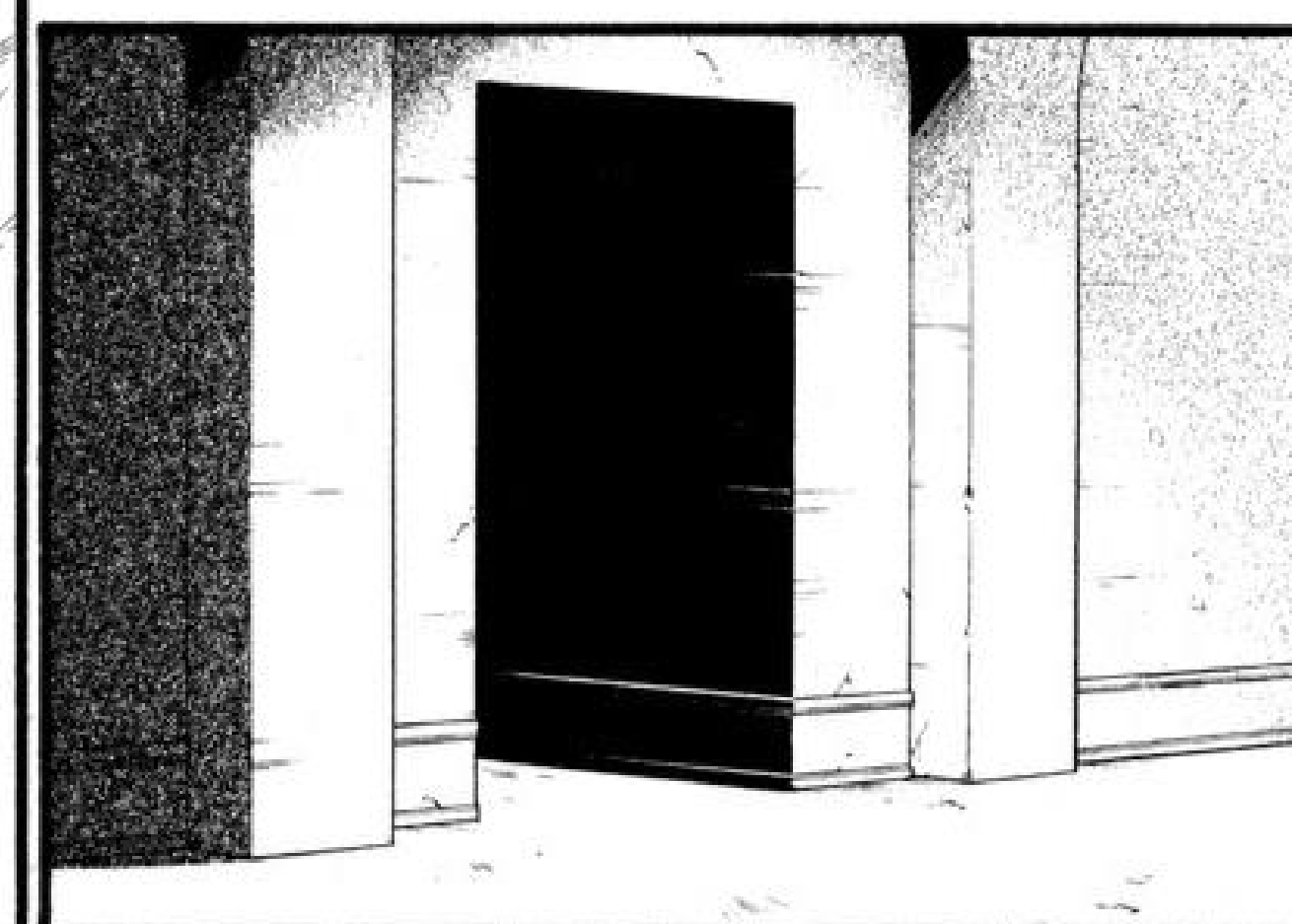
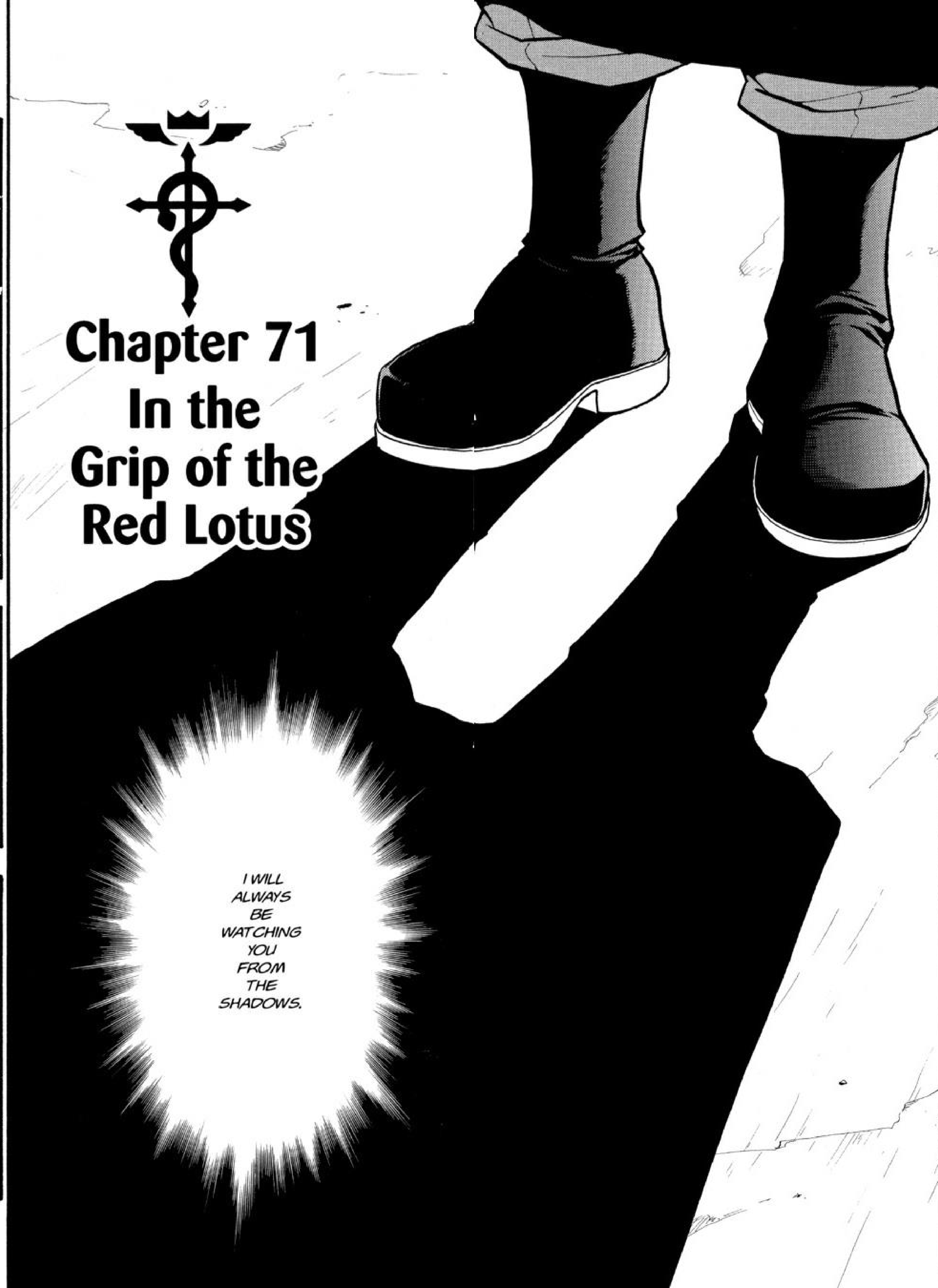
SWOO





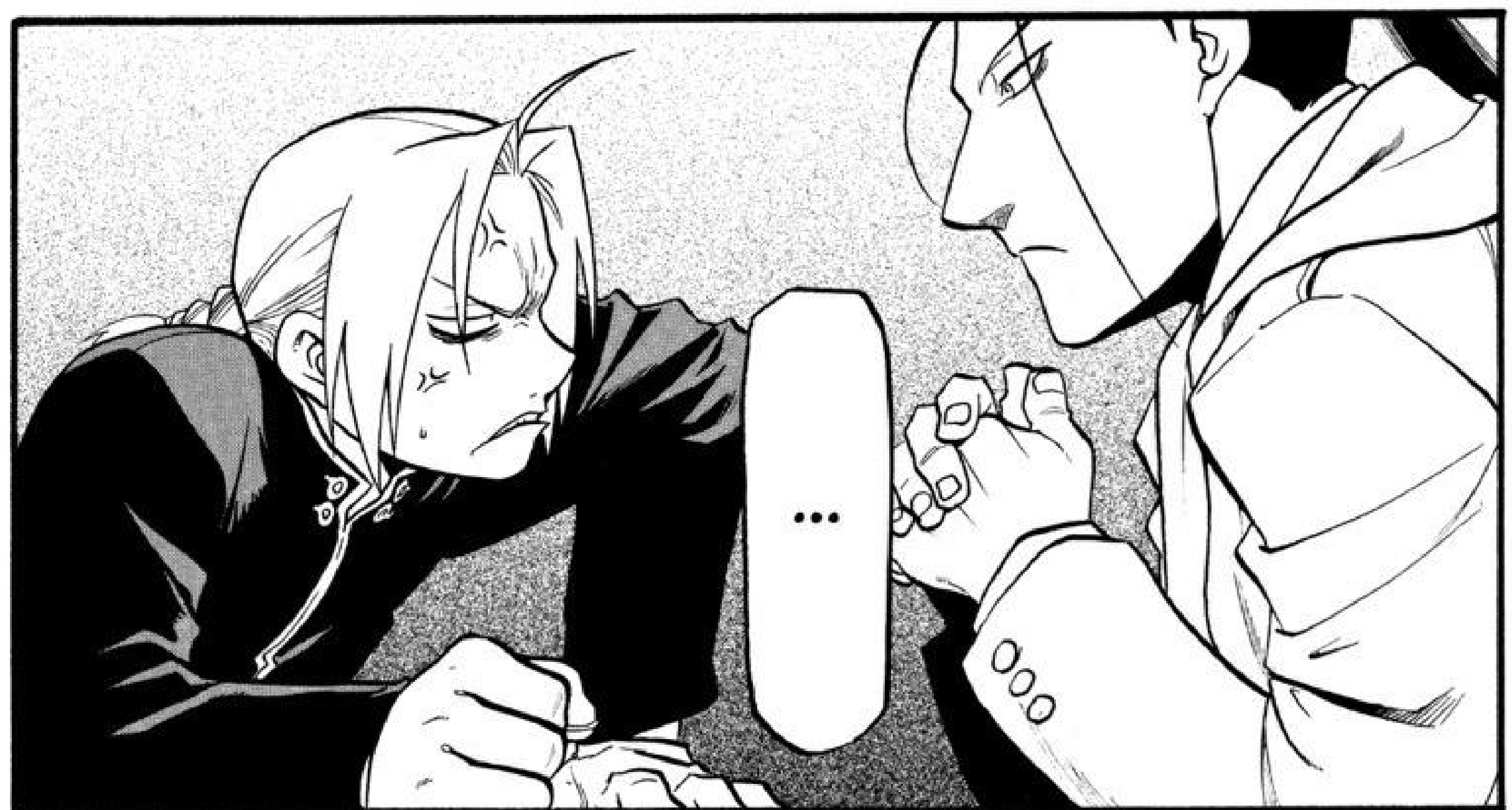
Chapter 71

In the Grip of the Red Lotus











AND
WHICH
SIDE
THE
WORLD
WILL
CHOOSE.

...AND
WHO
WILL
SUR-
VIVE.

...WHO
IS
STRONG-
ER..

I
WANT
TO
SEE
WHO
IS
RIGHT...

THAT LAW
IS AN
EXTREMELY
SIMPLE AND
POWERFUL
TRUTH.

I HEAR
THAT THE
ONLY LAW
HERE IN
BRIGGS
IS THE
SURVIVAL
OF THE
FITTEST.

THESE
ARE ALL
EXAMPLES
OF THE
SAME
LAW.

ISHBALANS
WERE
DESTROYED
BY THE
AMEST-
RIANS.

SOME
SPECIES
WERE
DE-
STROYED
BY THE
CLIM-
ATE...
OTHERS
BY HUMANS...

THROUGH-
OUT THE
SPAN OF
HISTORY,
THAT IS
HOW THIS
WORLD
HAS
EVOLVED.

THAT'S
ALL IT
WOULD
COME
DOWN
TO.

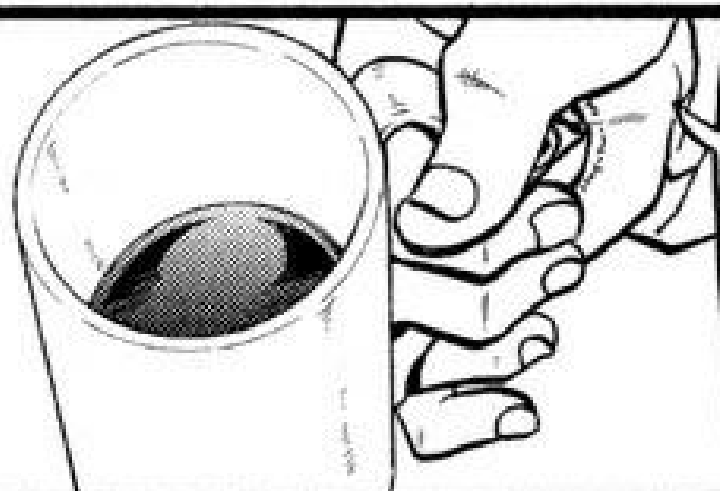
THEN THEY
SIMPLY DID
NOT POSSESS
THE REQUISITE
STRENGTH
TO SURVIVE
WITHIN THE
GREATER FLOW
OF THE
UNIVERSE.

IF
HUMANITY
IS
DESTROYED
BY THE
"NEW
HUMANS"...

BUT IF **YOU'RE**
A HUMAN BEING,
THEN WHY ARE
YOU ON THE
HOMUNCULI'S
SIDE?



YOUR...
TALENT
?



IT'S BECAUSE
THEY ENABLE
ME TO USE MY
TALENT TO
THE UTMOST.

NO,
I'M
NOT.

OH !!
MAYBE
YOU'RE
A
HOMUN-
CULUS
TOO?!

HOW
RUDE
!

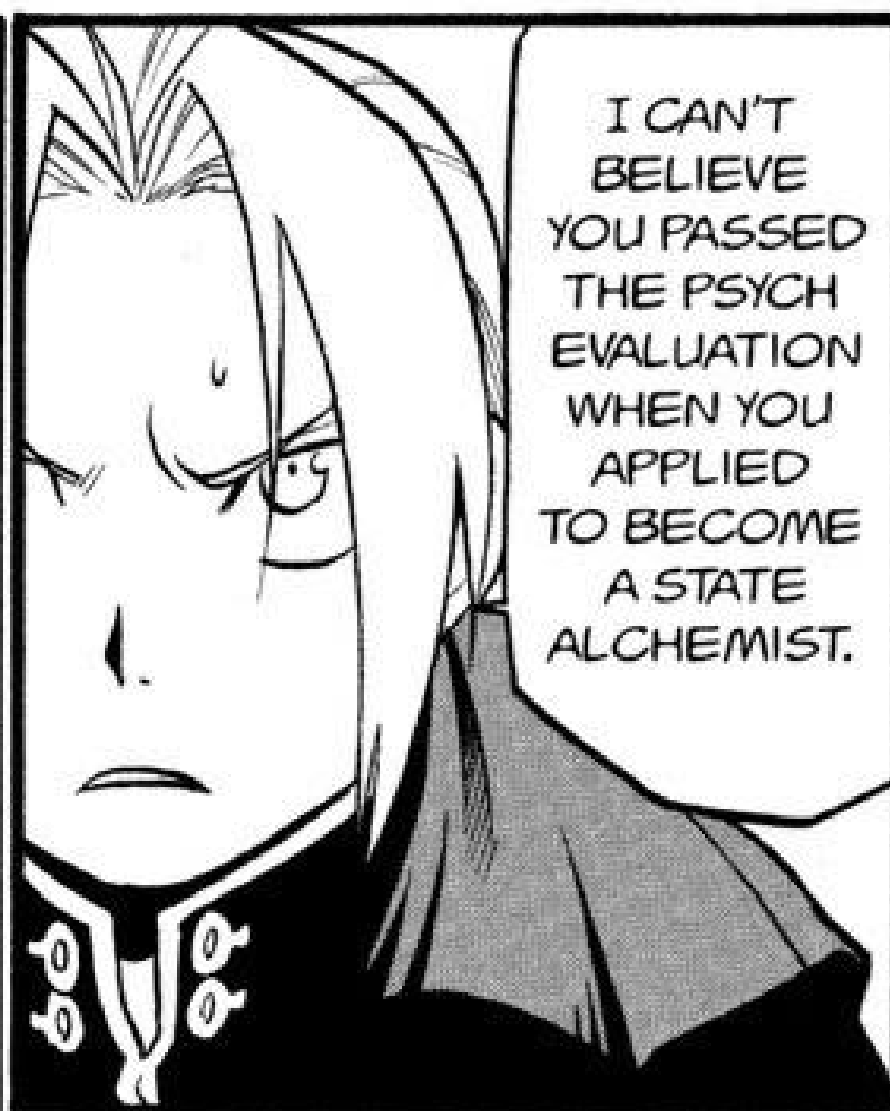
THEY'VE
GIVEN ME
COMPLETE
FREEDOM
TO USE
ALCHEMY
IN THE
SERVICE
OF MY
DESIRES.

THAT TEST IS
SO FORMULAIC...
AS LONG AS YOU
KNOW YOU'RE A
HERETIC, YOU
CAN PRETEND
TO BE NORMAL
AND PASS IT
WITH EASE.

A
"HERE-
TIC"...
?



I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU PASSED
THE PSYCH
EVALUATION
WHEN YOU
APPLIED
TO BECOME
A STATE
ALCHEMIST.



IN
ADDITION,
THEY
SUPPLY
ME WITH
ALL THE
BACKUP
I NEED.

IS THERE
ANY ORGANI-
ZATION OF
HUMANS
THAT
WOULD
DO THAT?





YET IF ONE
SUCH AS I
SURVIVED,
THAT MEANS
THE WORLD
ACCEPTS ME.



YES.



IN
THIS
WAR...

...MY
SURVI-
VAL-
MY VERY
EXIST-
ENCE-
IS AT
STAKE.

CAN'T YOU
UNDERSTAND
HOW THRILLING
THESE STAKES
ARE FOR ME,
MR. FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST?

I'VE
KNOWN
FOR A
LONG TIME
THAT
RELATIVE
TO THE
NORMS OF
SOCIETY,
I AM A
HERETIC.



...WHAT
URGE
IS MORE
BASIC
THAN
SELF-
PRESER-
VATION?

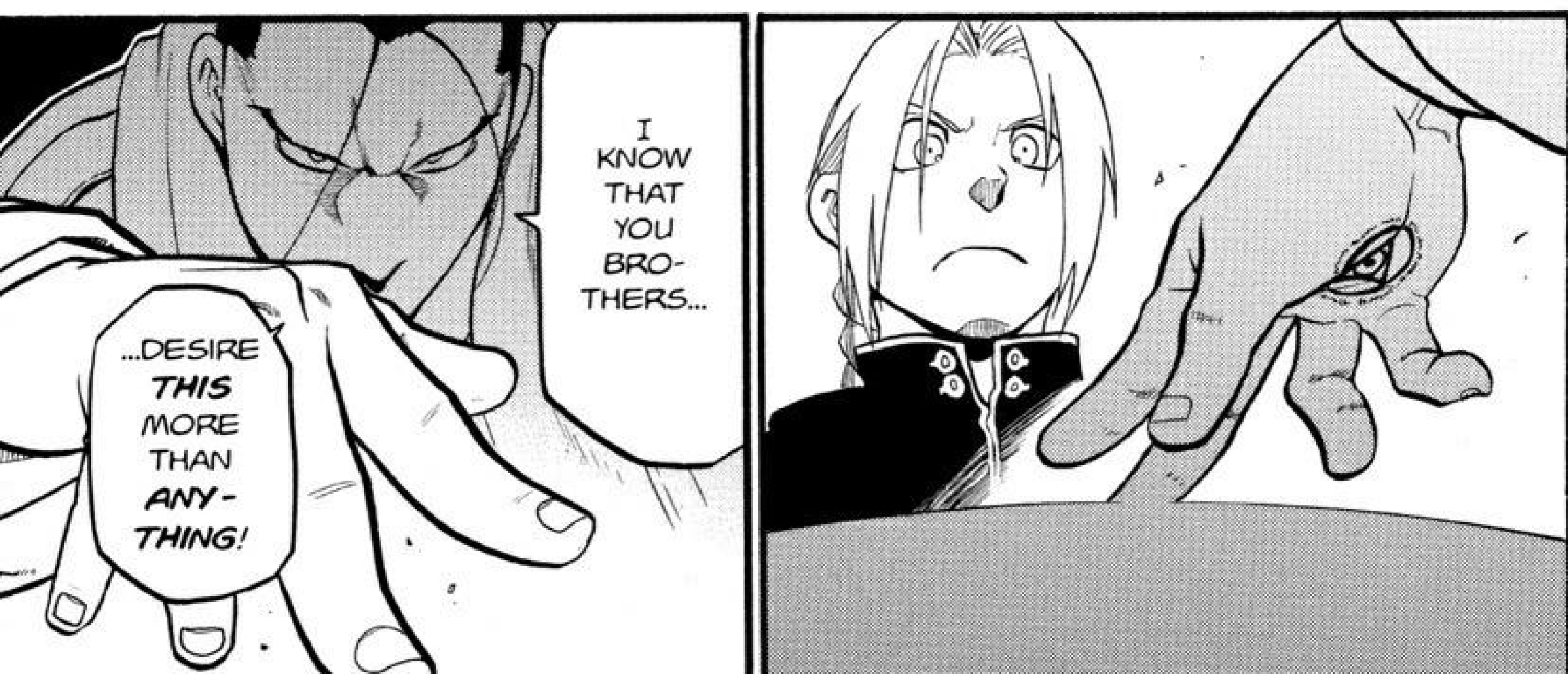
I THOUGHT
THAT **ALL**
STATE
ALCHEMISTS
WERE AT
LEAST A
LITTLE SELF-
CENTERED.
AFTER ALL...

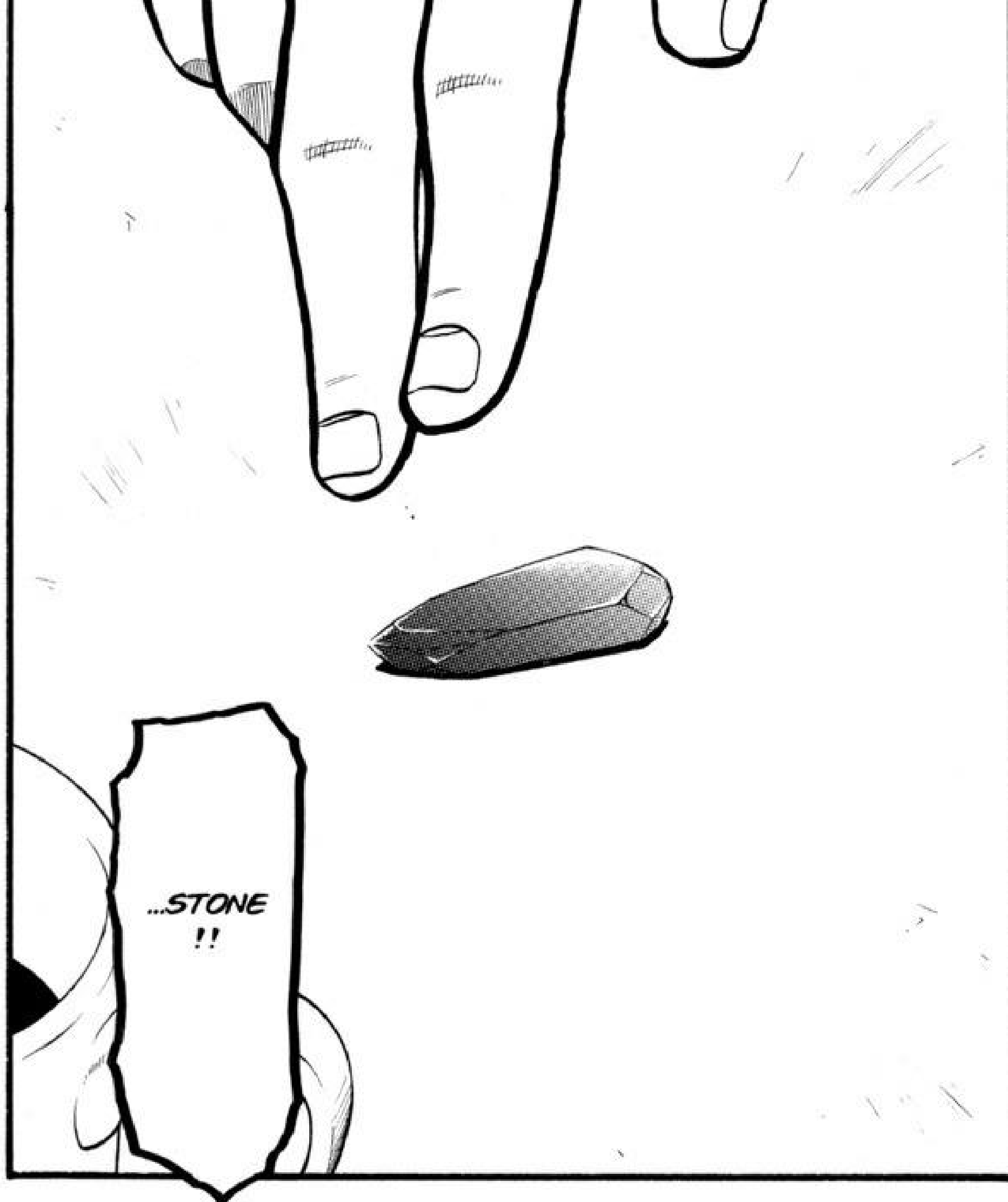
OH.
THAT'S
TOO
BAD.

CREAK



I'LL
NEVER
UNDER-
STAND!





...STONE
!!



THE
PHILOS-
OPHER'S...



IF YOU
COMPLETE
YOUR
TASKS,
I'LL GIVE
THIS
TO YOU.



THE
PRESI-
DENT
TOLD
ME...

...ABOUT
THE
CONDITION
OF
YOUR
BROTHER'S
BODY.



I CAN'T
KEEP
THIS
FROM
HER ANY
LONGER.

I
HAVEN'T
TOLD
HER
ANYTHING
YET.

TO
MS.
WINRY
AS
WELL ?

WHY ?



LET
ME...
...SPEAK
TO AL
AND
WINRY
ABOUT
THIS.



BUT
I'LL BE
PRESENT
TO ENSURE
THAT YOU
DON'T
REVEAL
ANYTHING
YOU
SHOULDN'T.

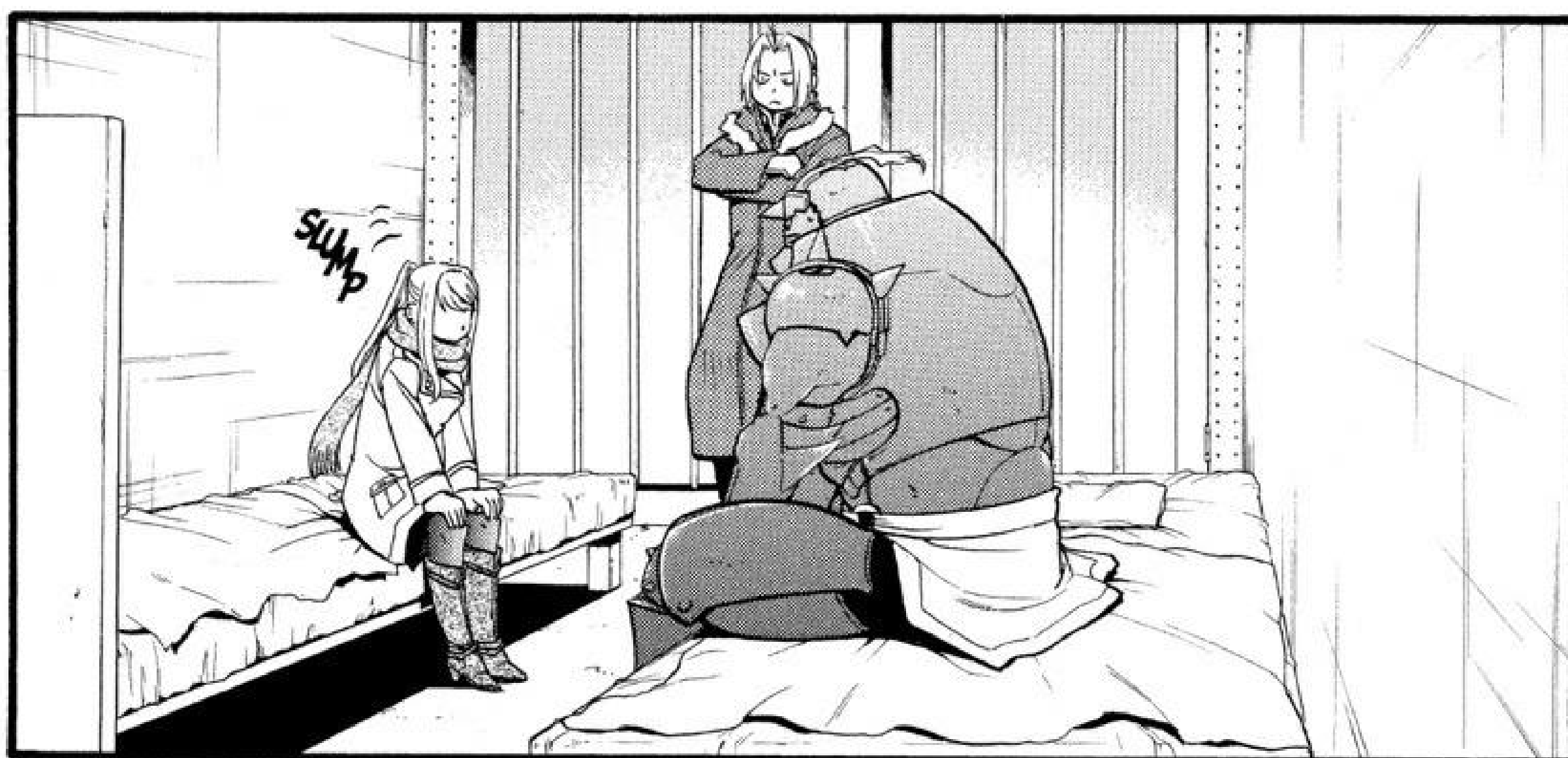
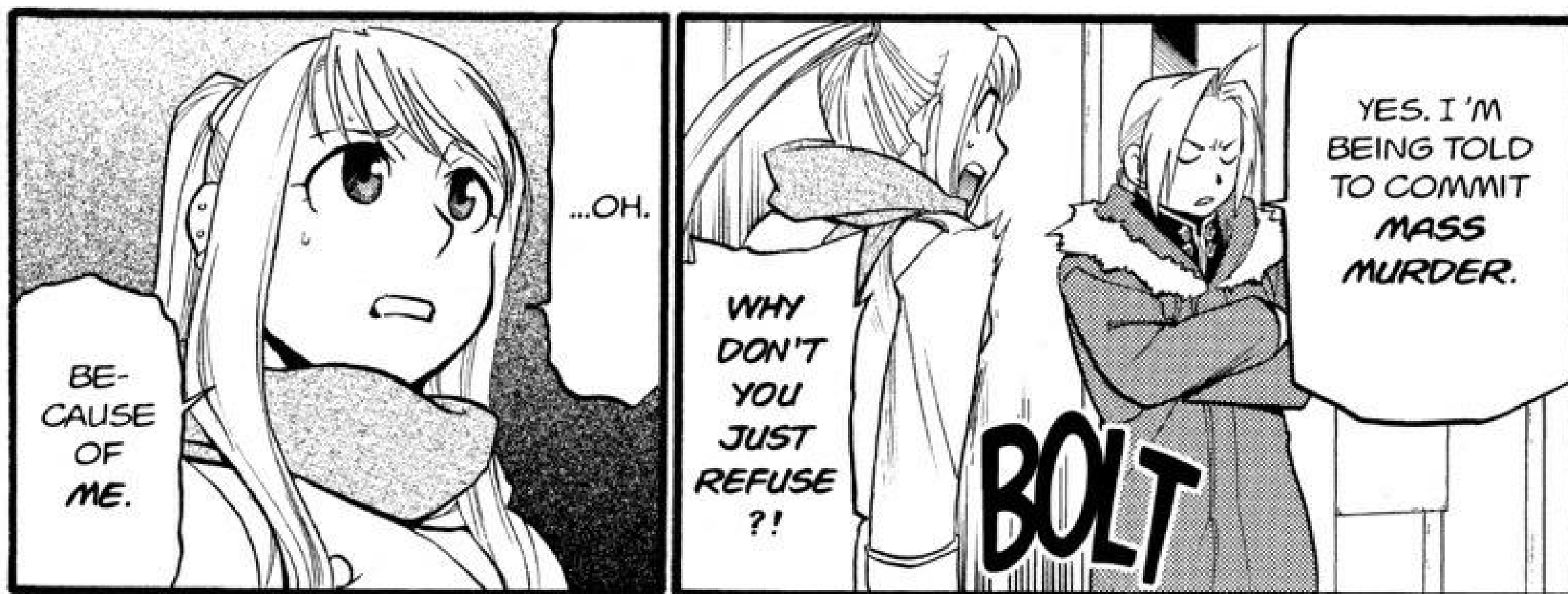
AS
YOU
WISH.



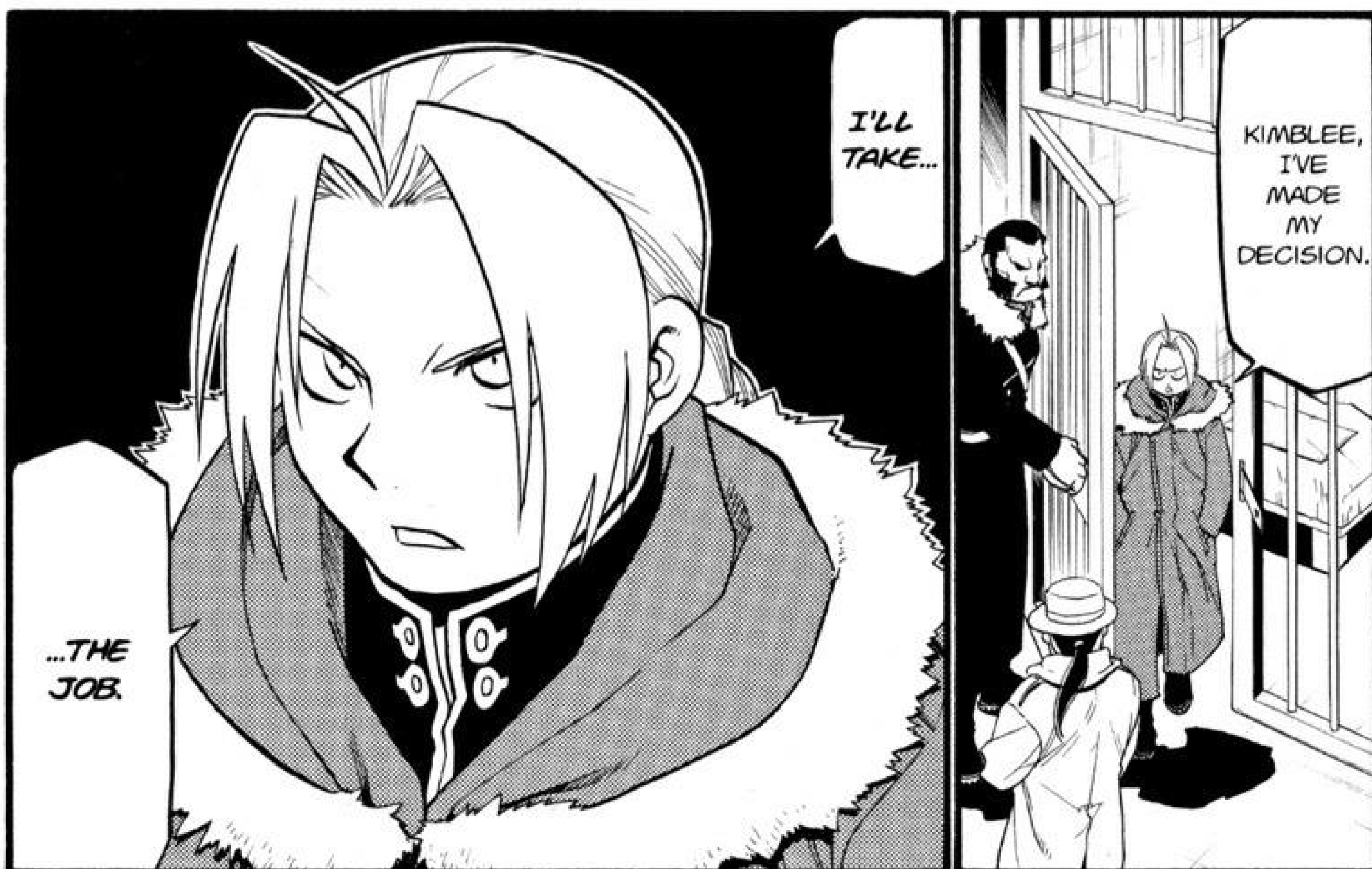
WHATEVER
I HAVE TO
DO... I DON'T
WANT TO
BETRAY HER
BY LYING.

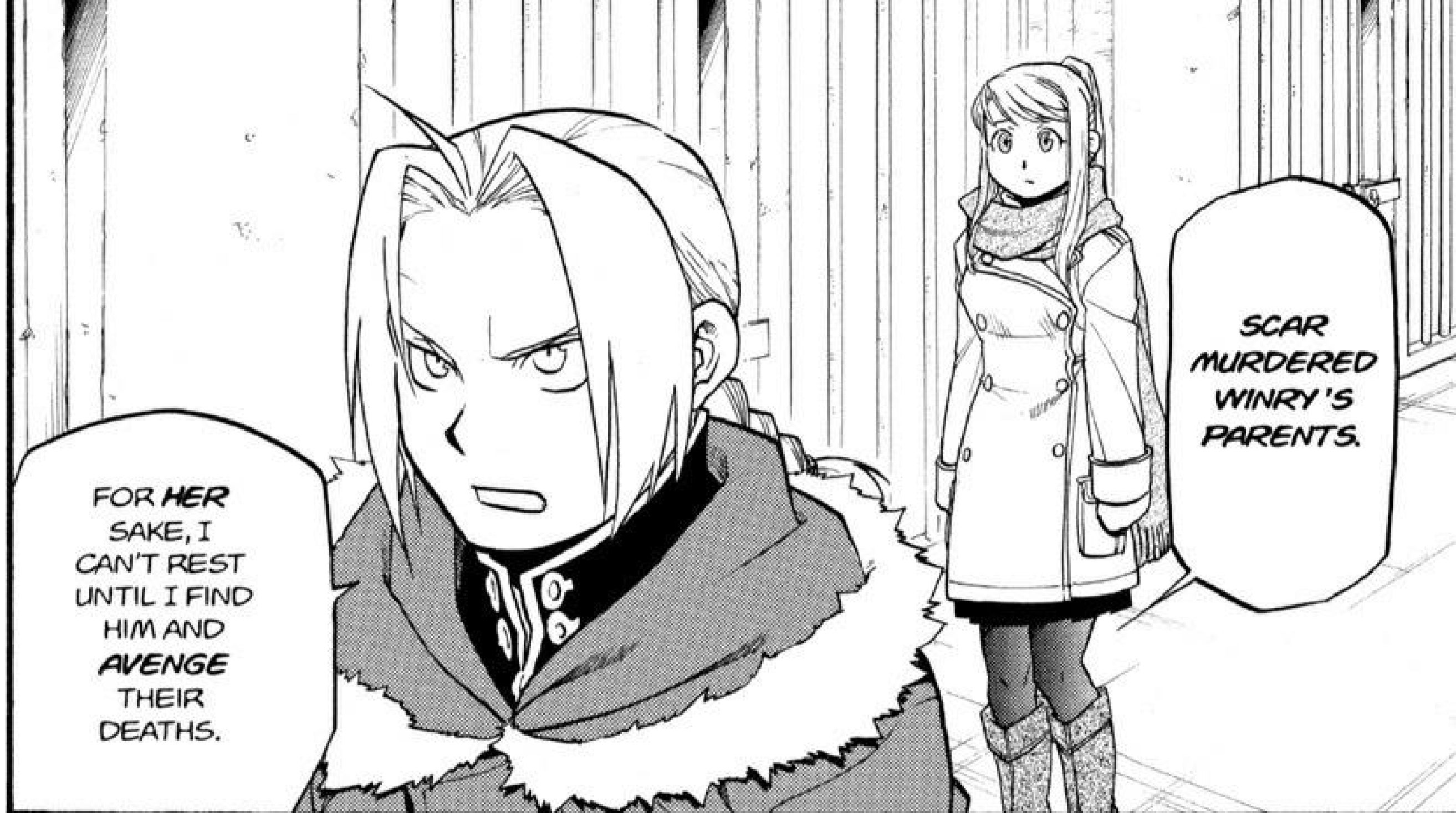
SHE'S
INVOLVED
NOW.











FOR HER
SAKE, I
CAN'T REST
UNTIL I FIND
HIM AND
AVENGE
THEIR
DEATHS.

**SCAR
MURDERED
WINRY'S
PARENTS.**



HMM.
HOW
CONVEN-
IENT.

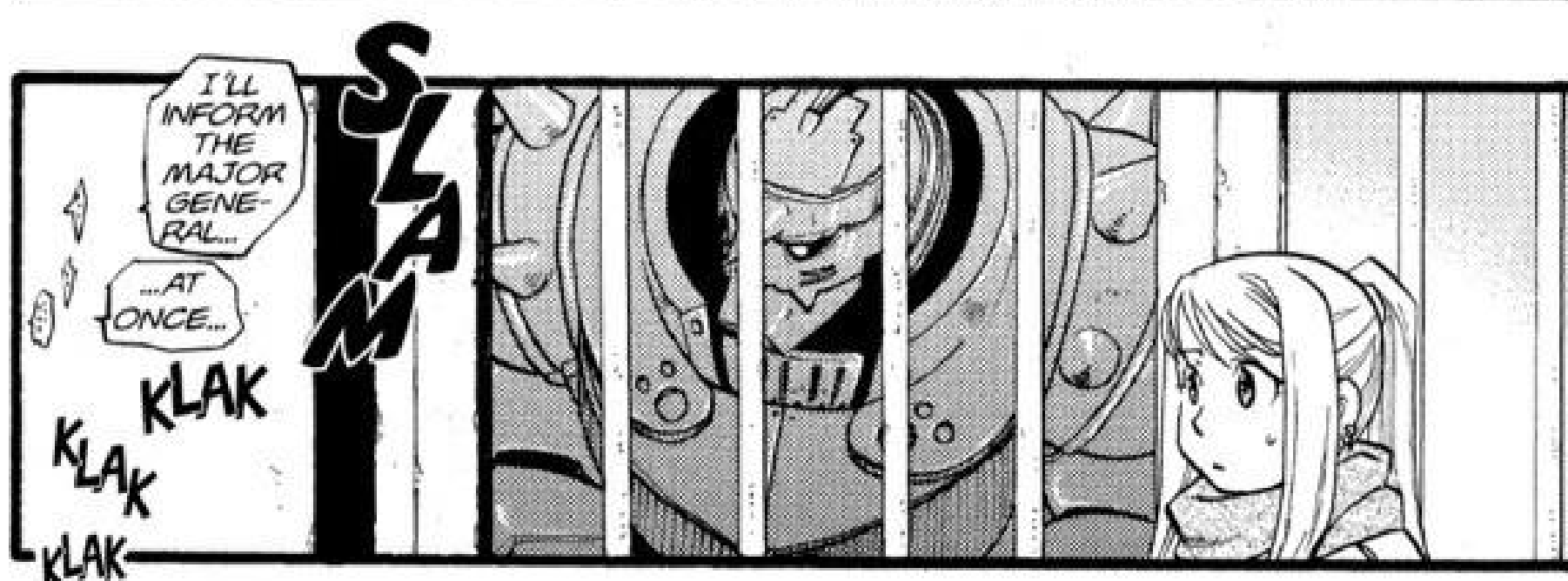
SCAR'S ATTACK
OF PHYSICAL
DESTRUCTION
DOESN'T
WORK ON
AL'S BODY.

ALSO,
I'M
TAKING
AL WITH
ME.



I SEE.
SO THAT'S
WHY
YOU'RE
SO
FIXATED
ON
SCAR.

VERY
WELL.



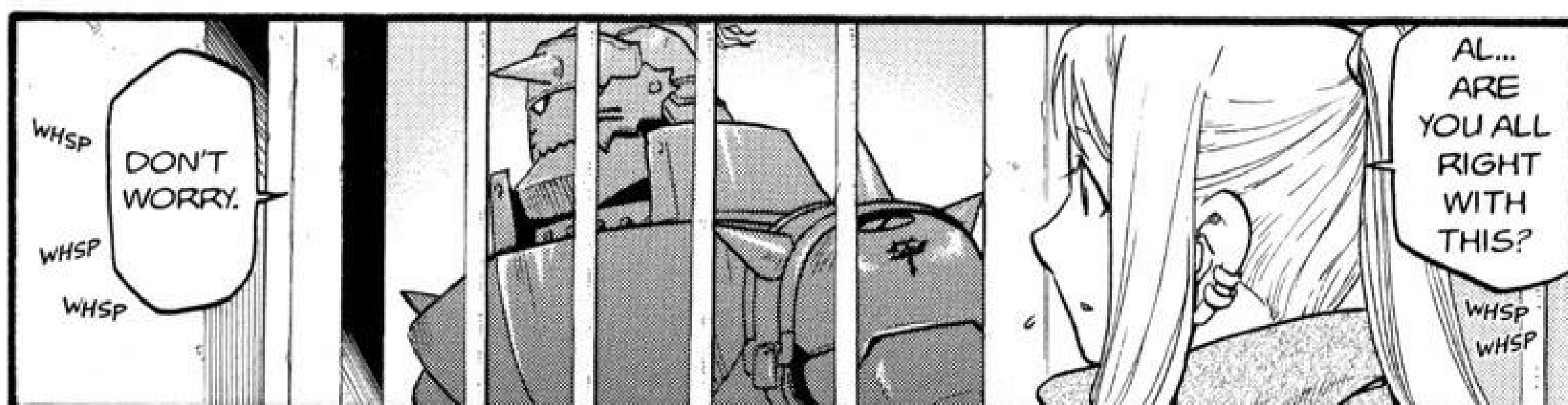
I'LL
INFORM
THE
MAJOR
GENE-
RAL...

...AT
ONCE...

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK



WHSP

DON'T
WORRY.

WHSP

WHSP

AL...
ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT
WITH
THIS?

WHSP
WHSP

LOSING OUR BODIES
WAS OUR OWN FAULT.
WE HAVE NO RIGHT
TO GET THEM BACK
BY USING SOMETHING
THAT WAS CREATED OUT
OF THE LIVES OF
INNOCENT PEOPLE.

MY BIG
BROTHER
WOULD NEVER
USE THE
PHILOSOPHER'S
STONE TO GET
OUR BODIES
BACK.

I THINK MY
BIG BROTHER'S
PRETENDING
TO SEARCH FOR
SCAR SO HE
CAN FIND
THAT GIRL.

TO TRICK KIMBLEE,
HE NEEDED A
MOTIVE THAT WAS
BELIEVABLE. THAT'S
WHY HE SAID THAT
STUFF ABOUT
AVENGING YOUR
PARENTS' DEATHS.

WE'RE
RESEARCHING
THE *PURIFI-
CATION ARTS*
OF XING NOW,
IN CASE THERE'S
A METHOD IN
THAT PRACTICE
THAT COULD
HELP US GET
OUR BODIES
BACK.

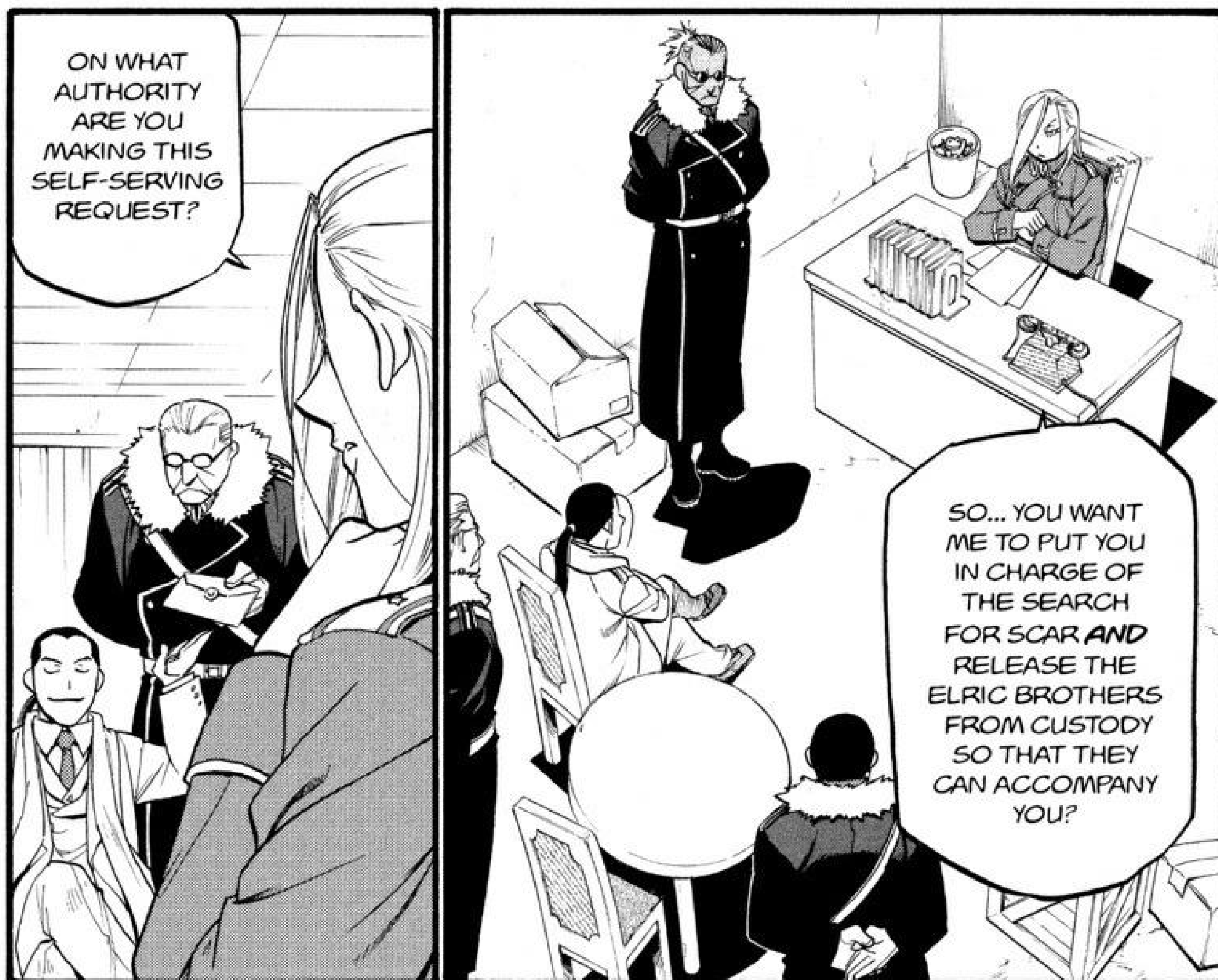
OUR ONLY
LEAD IS
A LITTLE
GIRL WHO
MIGHT BE
TRAVELING
WITH SCAR.

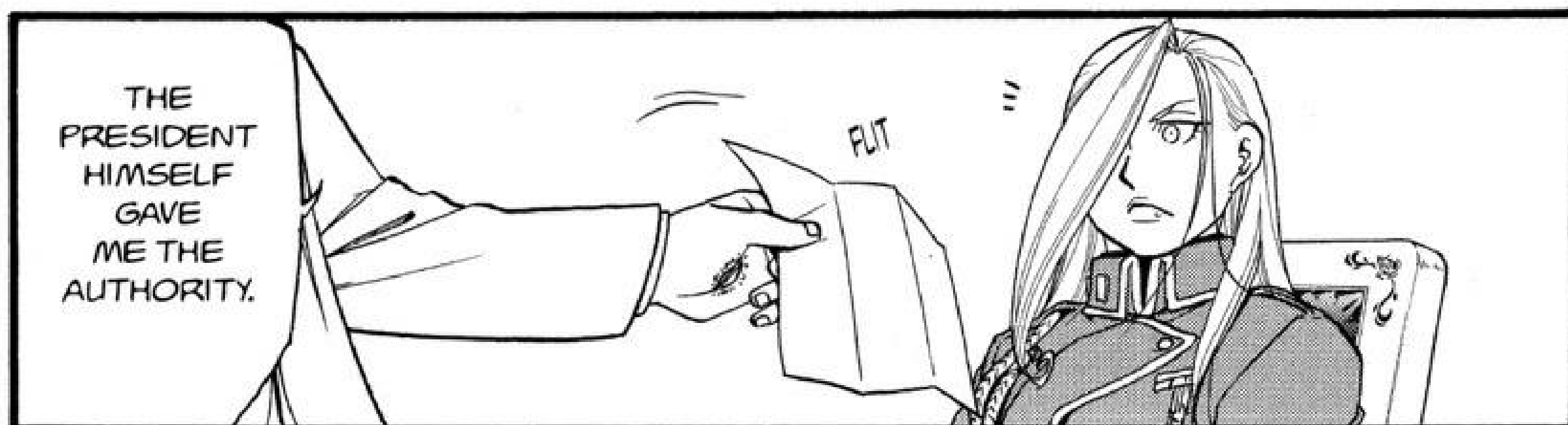
YOU GUYS
MATTER
MORE TO ME
RIGHT NOW.
YOU'RE STILL
ALIVE.

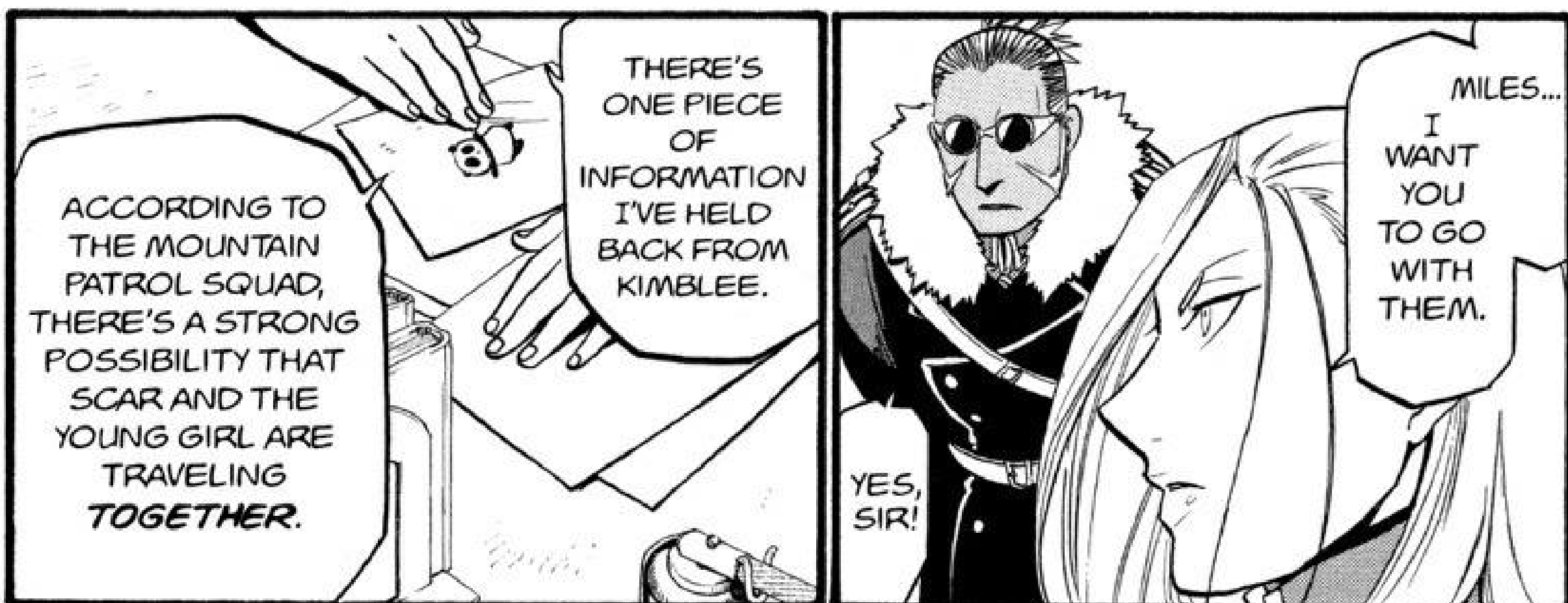
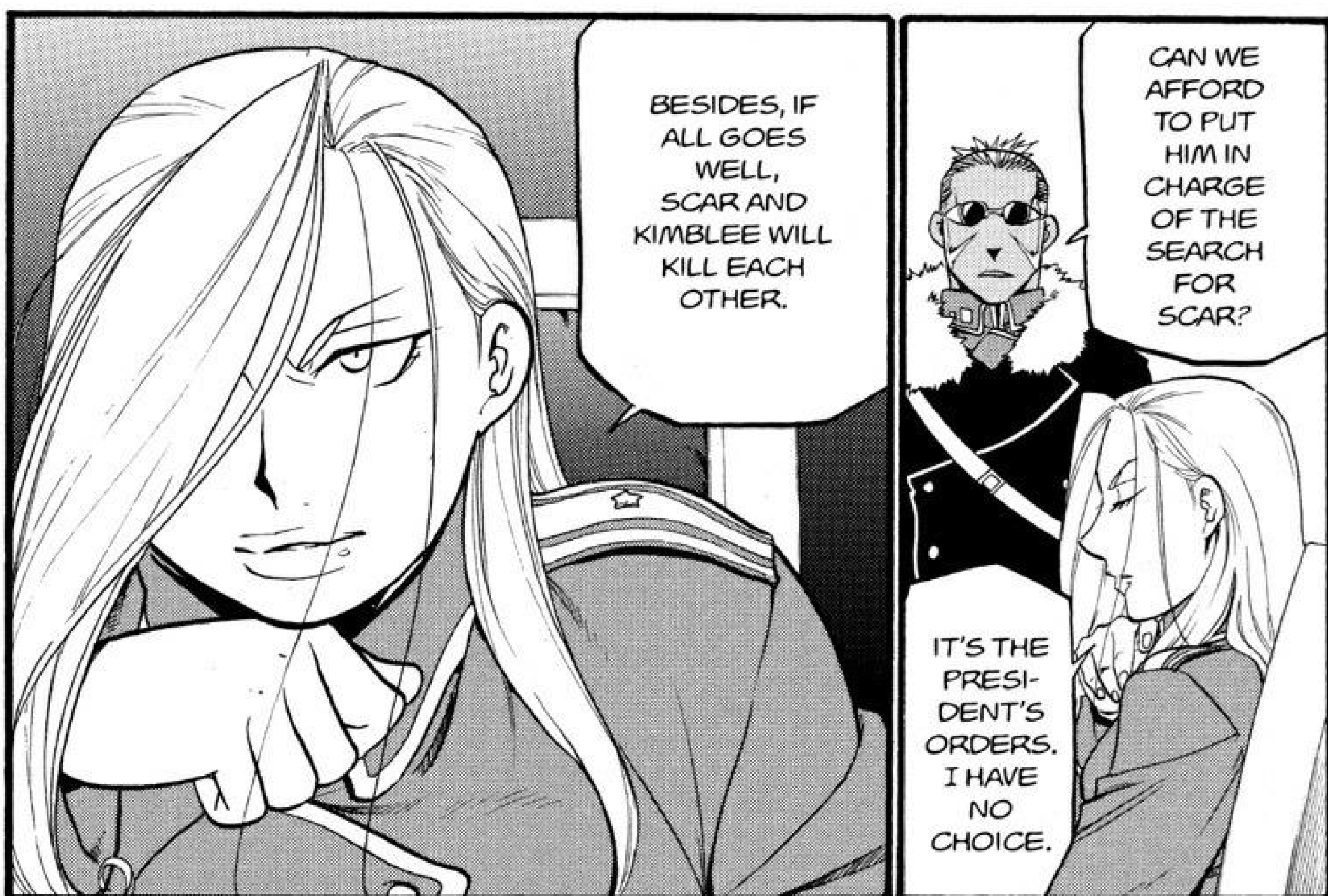
IT'S
OKAY.

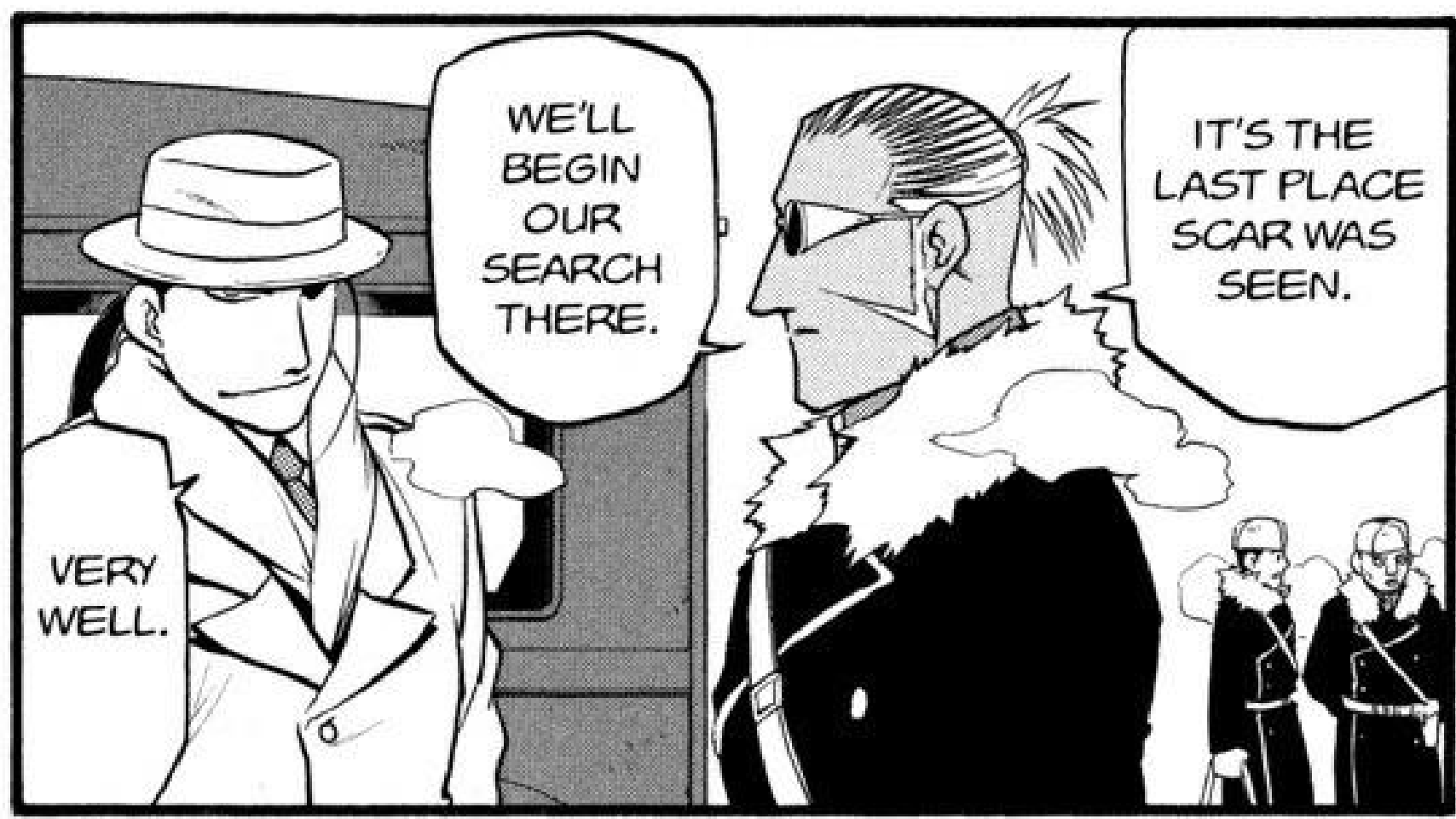
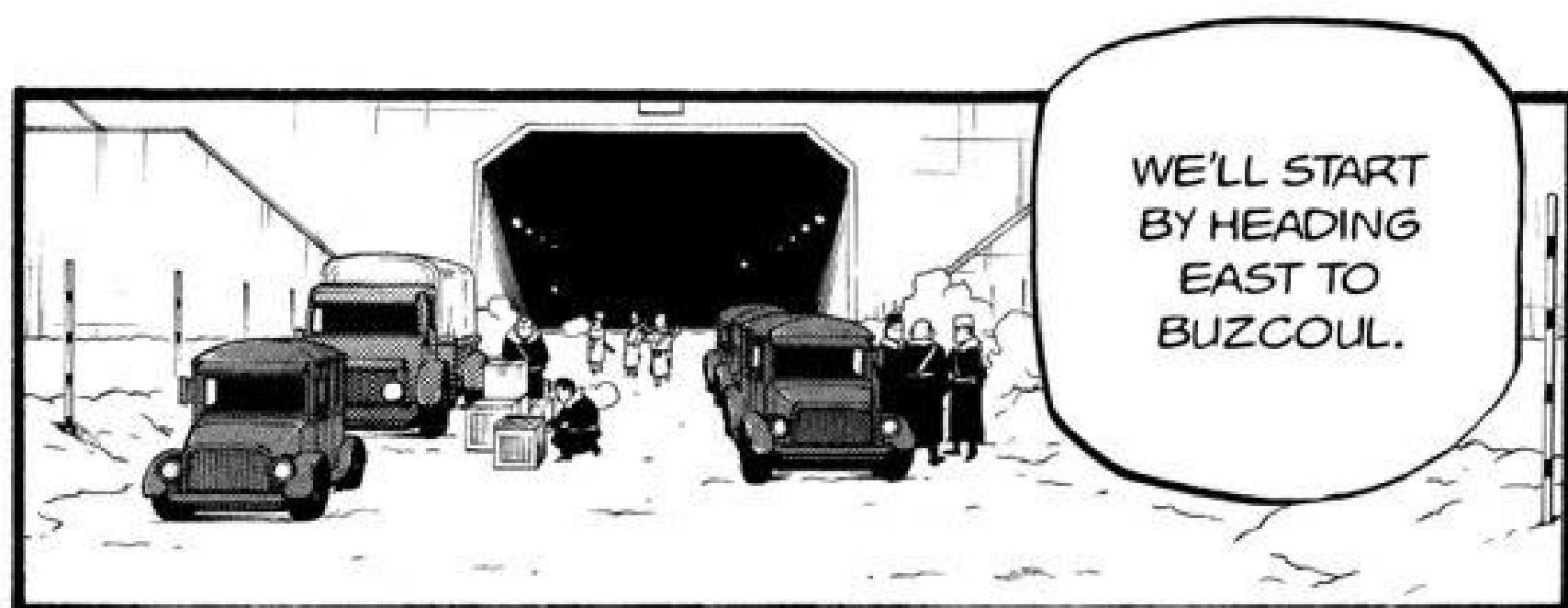
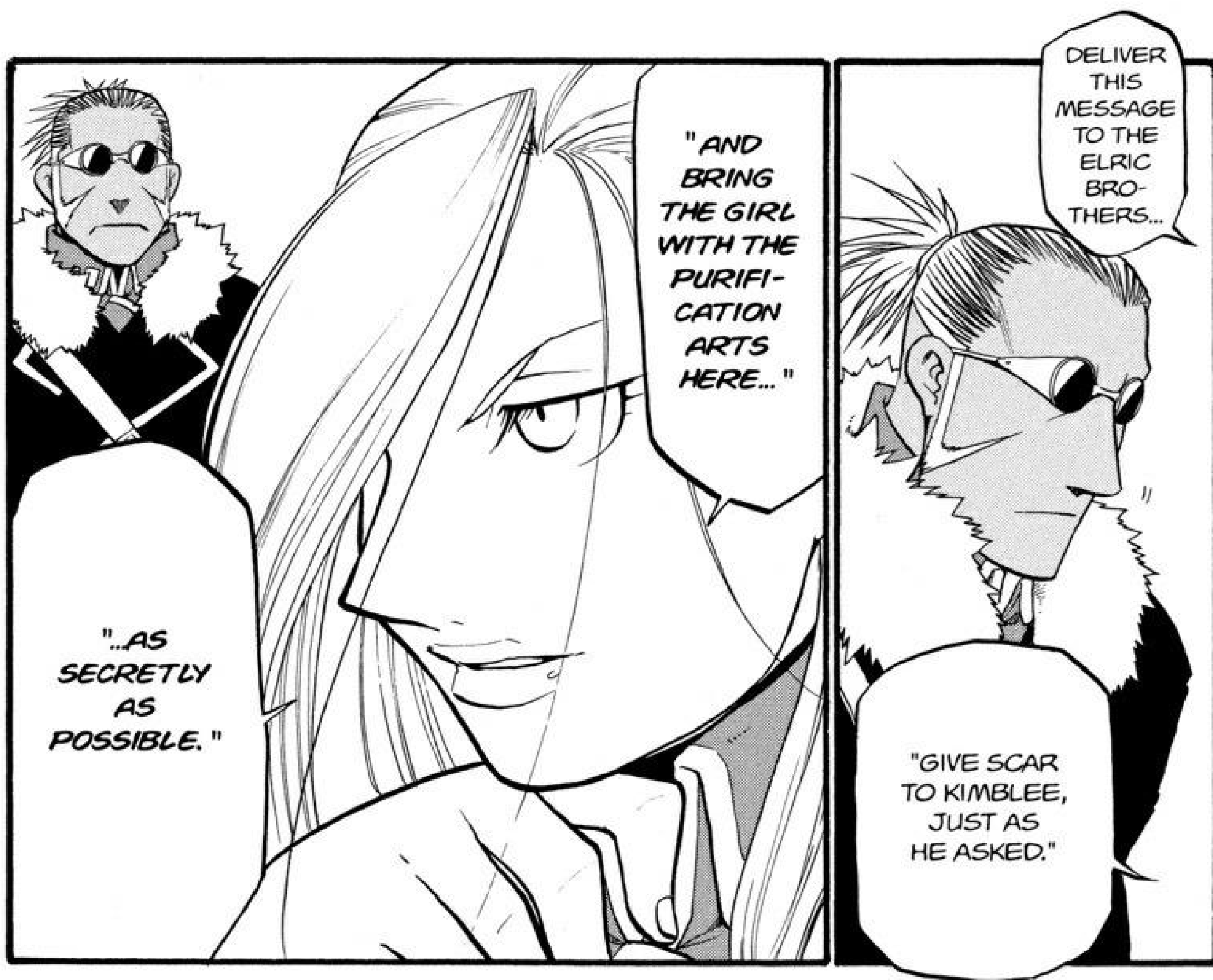
WE DIDN'T
MEAN TO
USE AUNT
AND UNCLE'S
DEATHS
LIKE THAT...

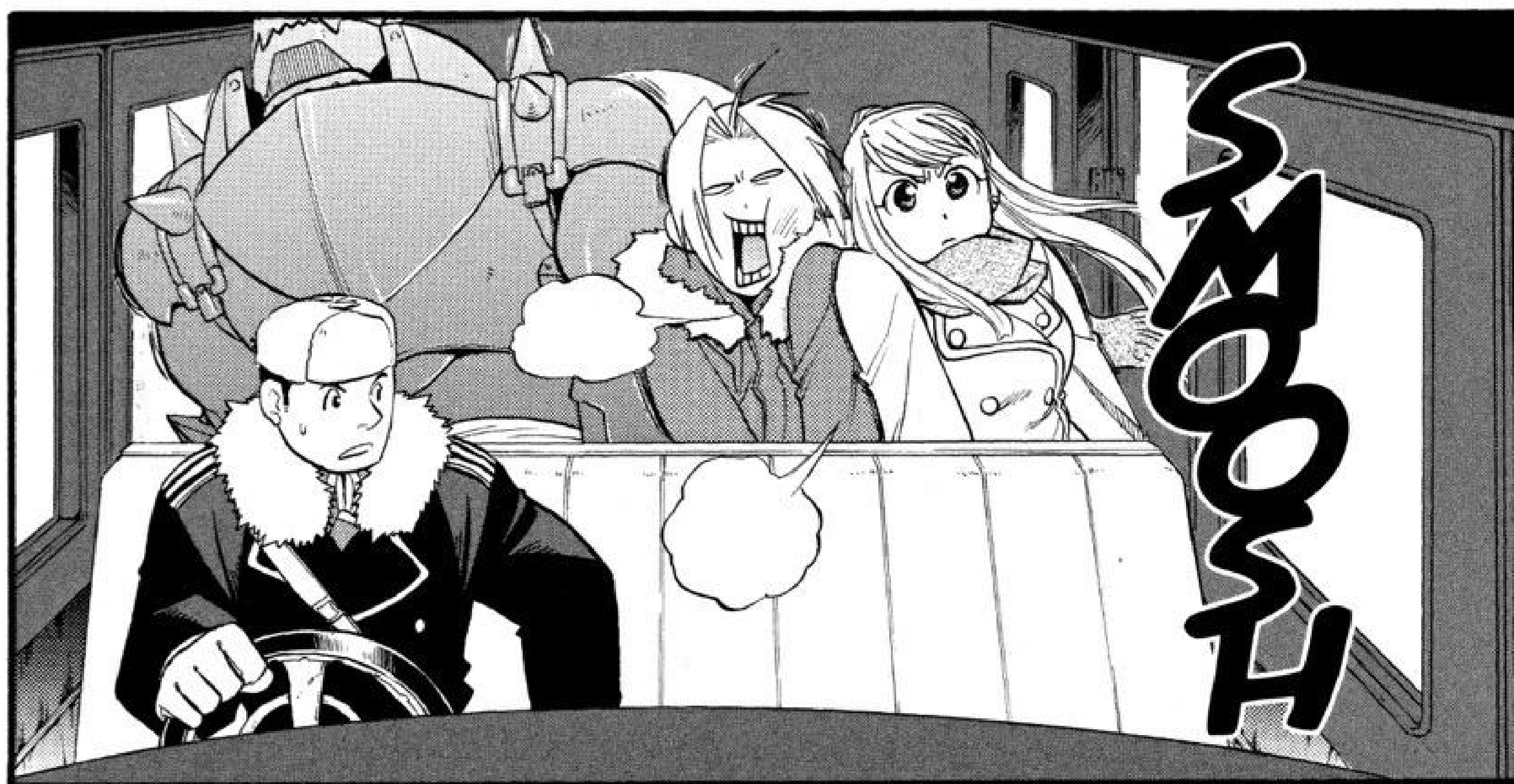
SORRY,
WINRY.





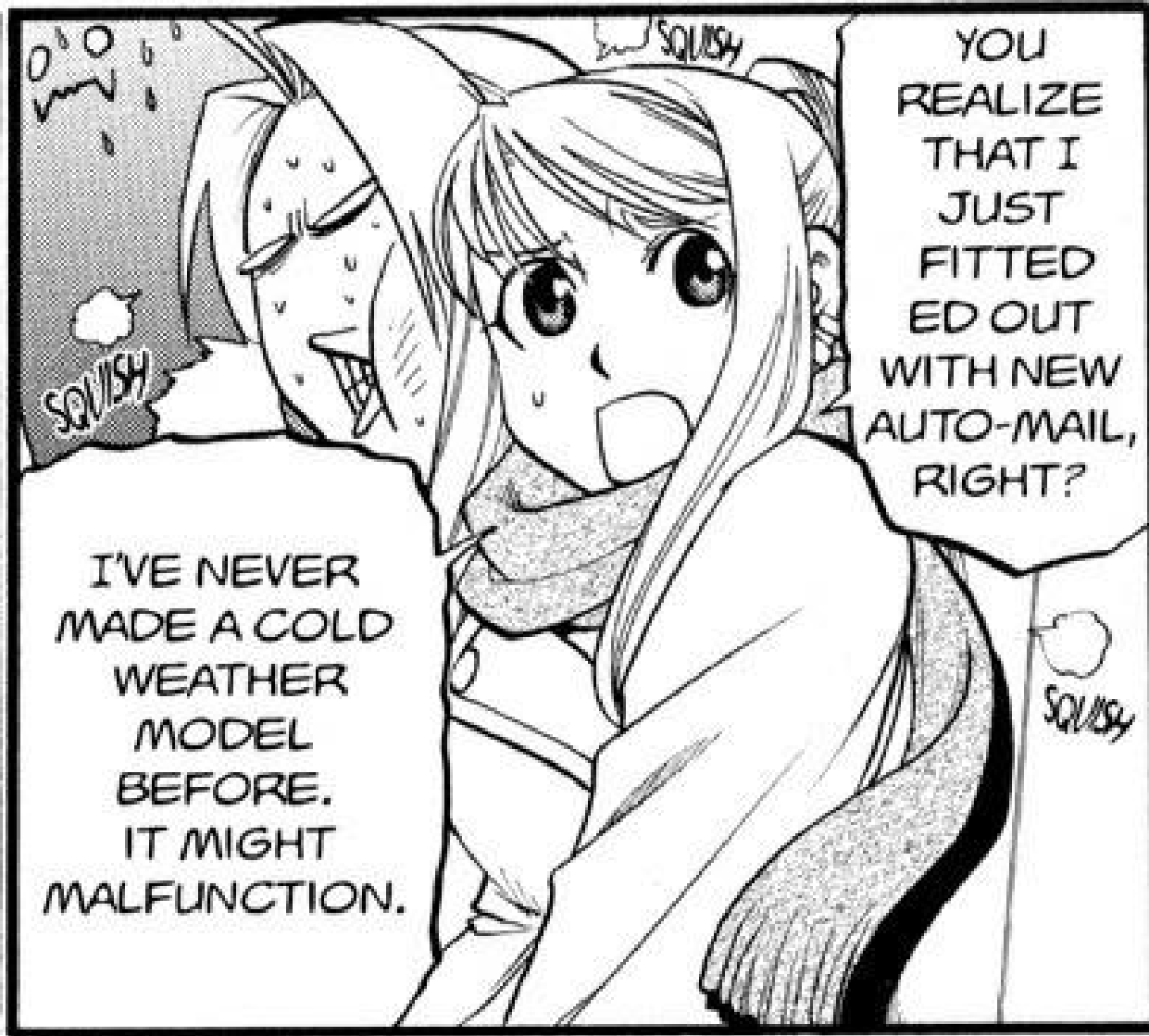






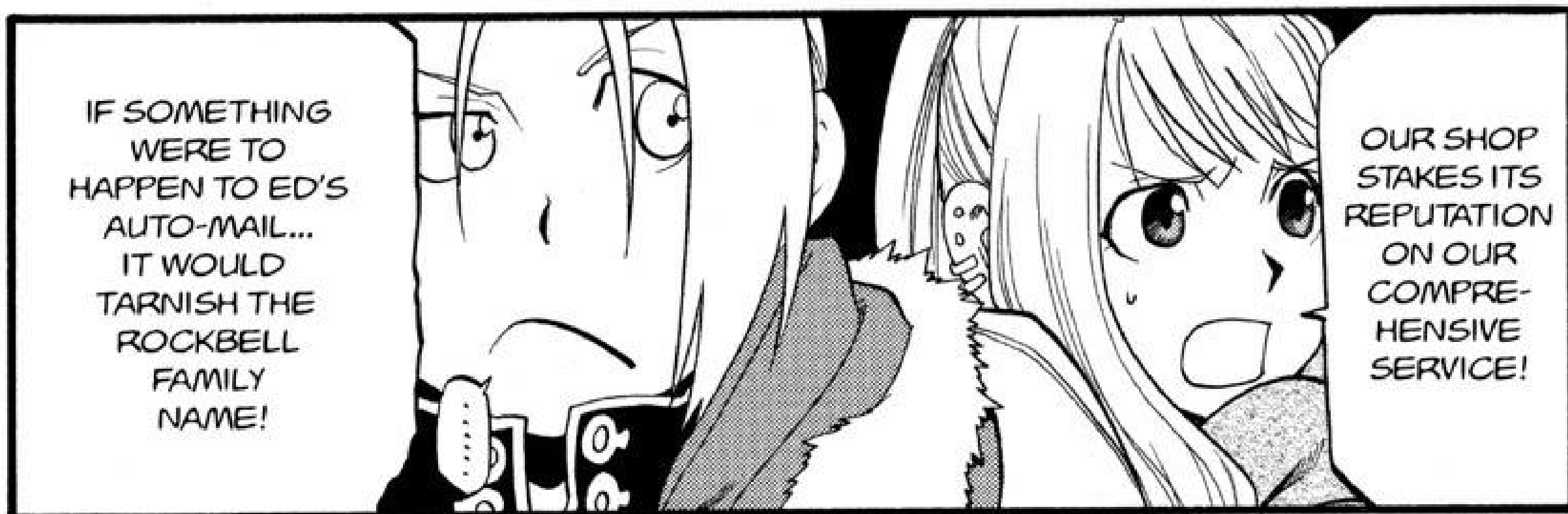


HE NEEDS ME WITH HIM IN CASE I NEED TO MAKE REPAIRS.



I'VE NEVER MADE A COLD WEATHER MODEL BEFORE. IT MIGHT MALFUNCTION.

YOU REALIZE THAT I JUST FITTED ED OUT WITH NEW AUTO-MAIL, RIGHT?



IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO ED'S AUTO-MAIL... IT WOULD TARNISH THE ROCKBELL FAMILY NAME!

OUR SHOP STAKES ITS REPUTATION ON OUR COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE!



ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. YOU MAY COME ALONG.

MY FAMILY'S BEEN DOING THIS FOR FOUR GENERATIONS!

FUSS FUSS



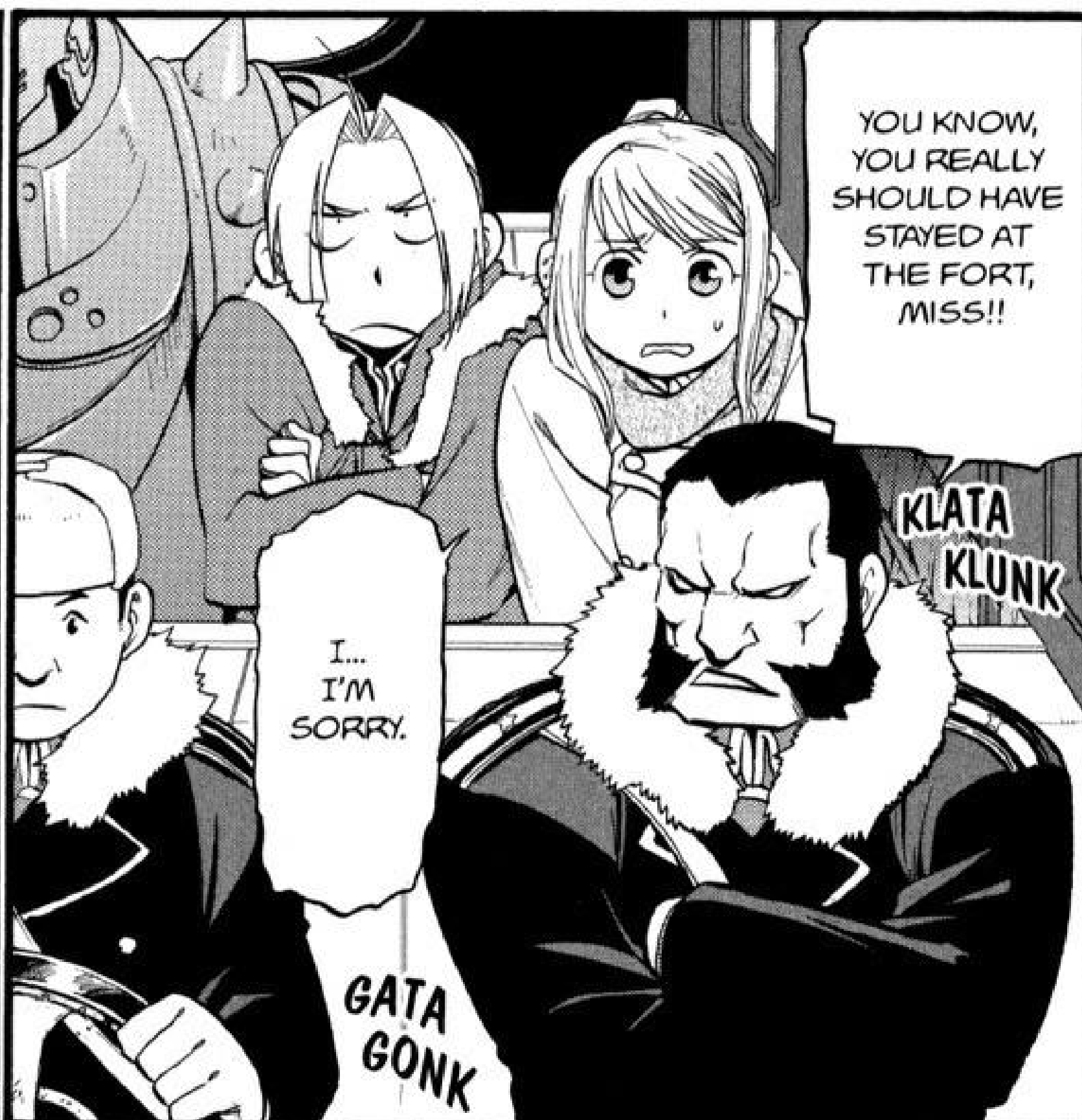
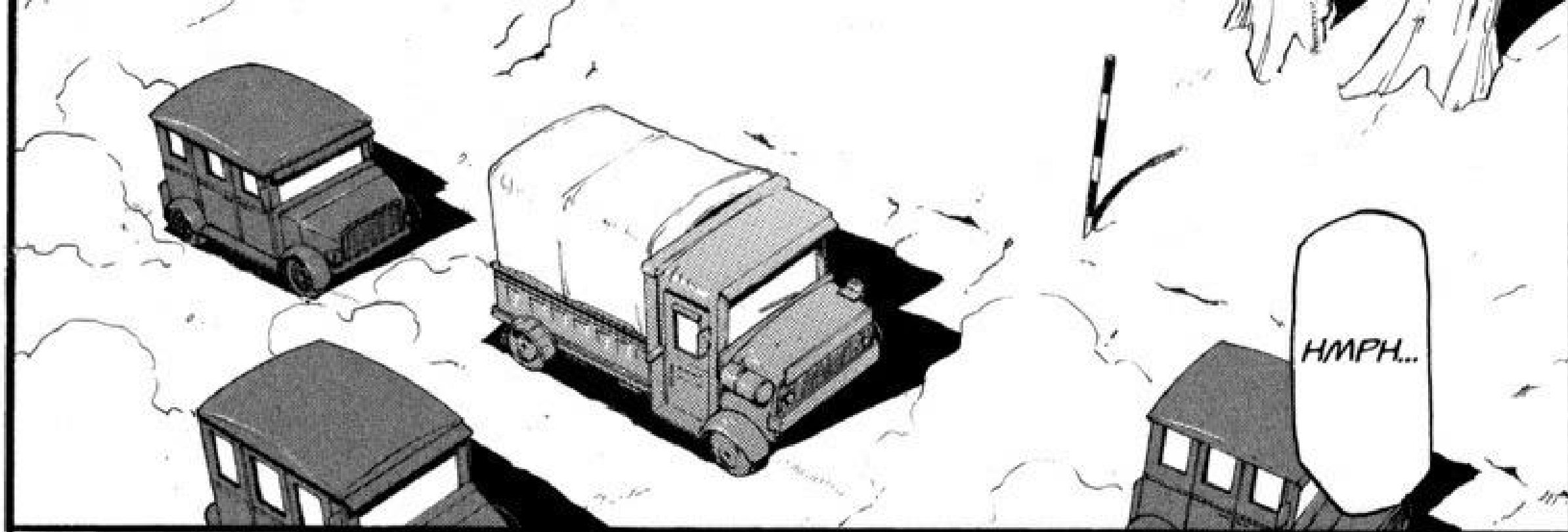
YOU SURE ARE OBSESSED WITH YOUR JOB! CRAZY WORKAHOLIC!

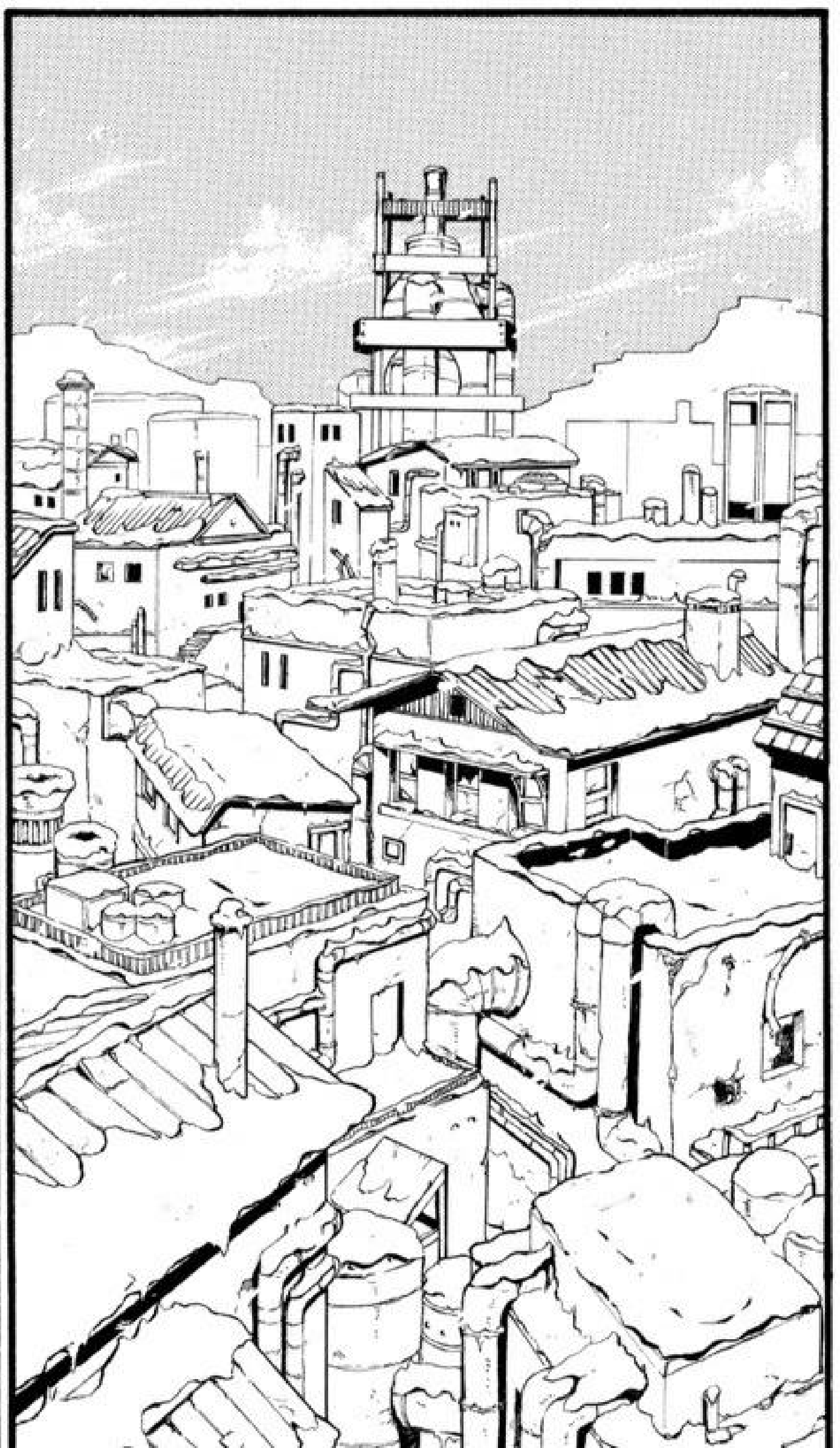
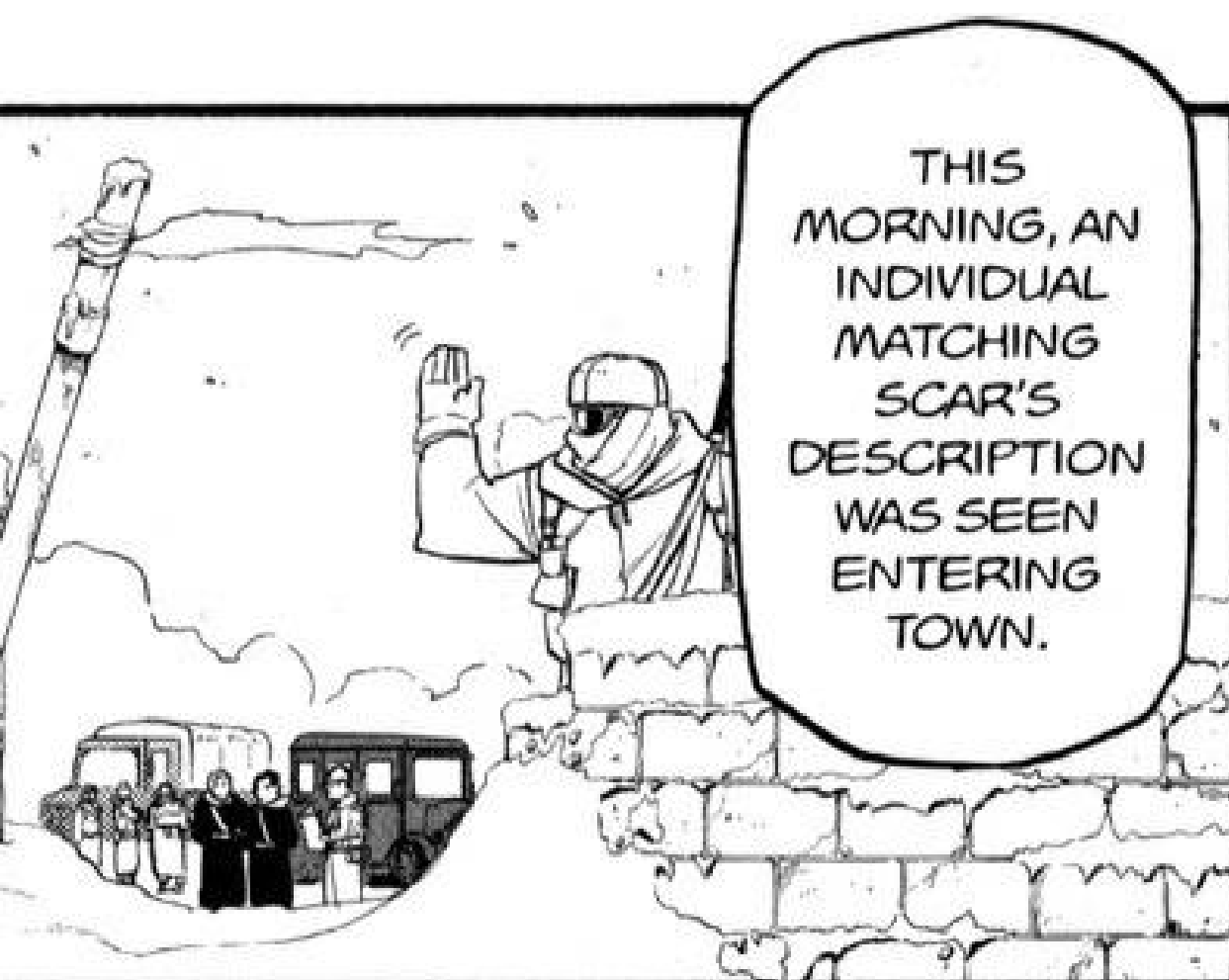
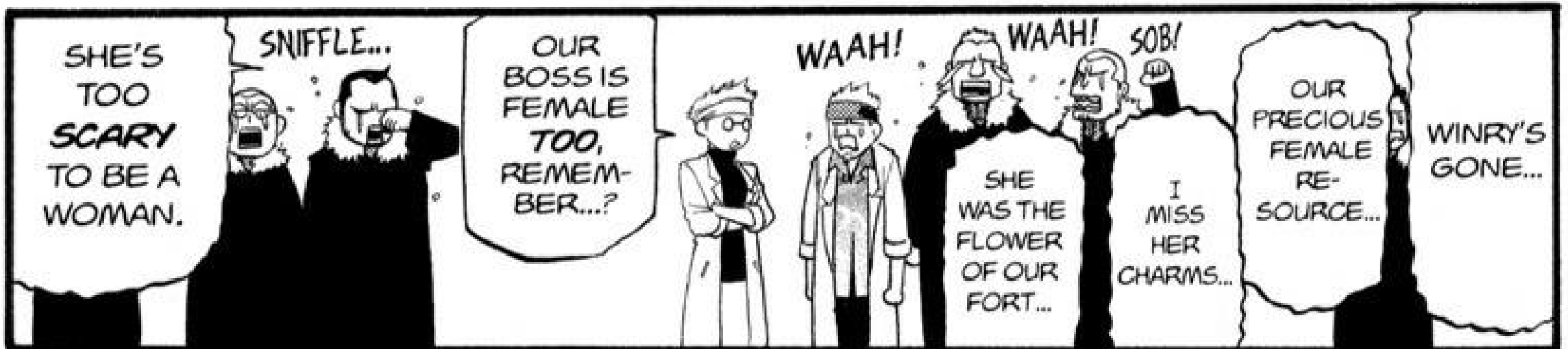
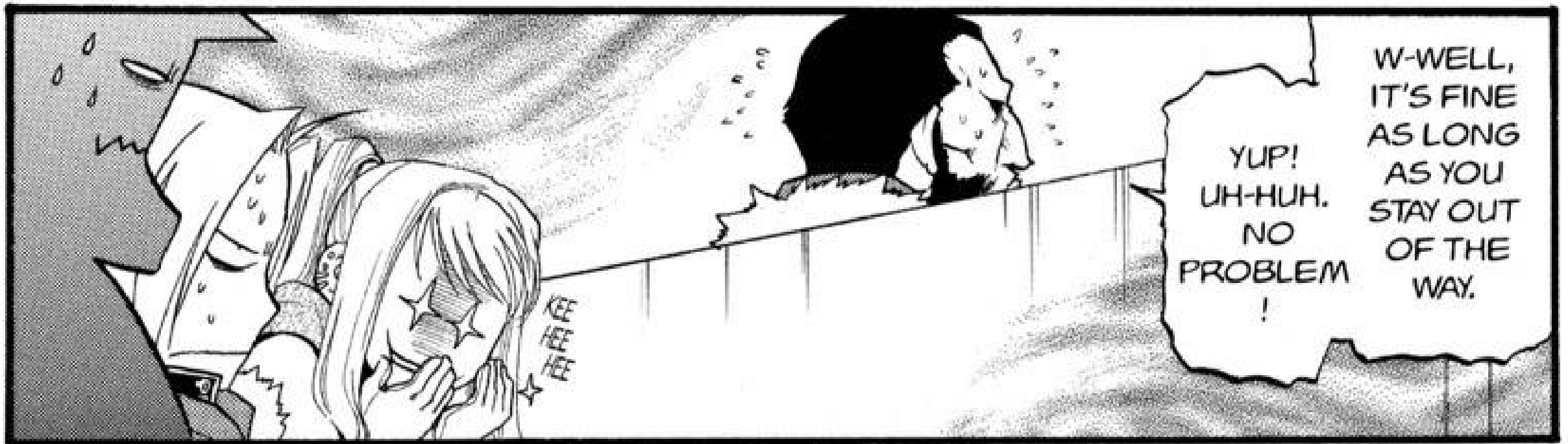
OF COURSE! I TAKE PRIDE IN MY WORK!

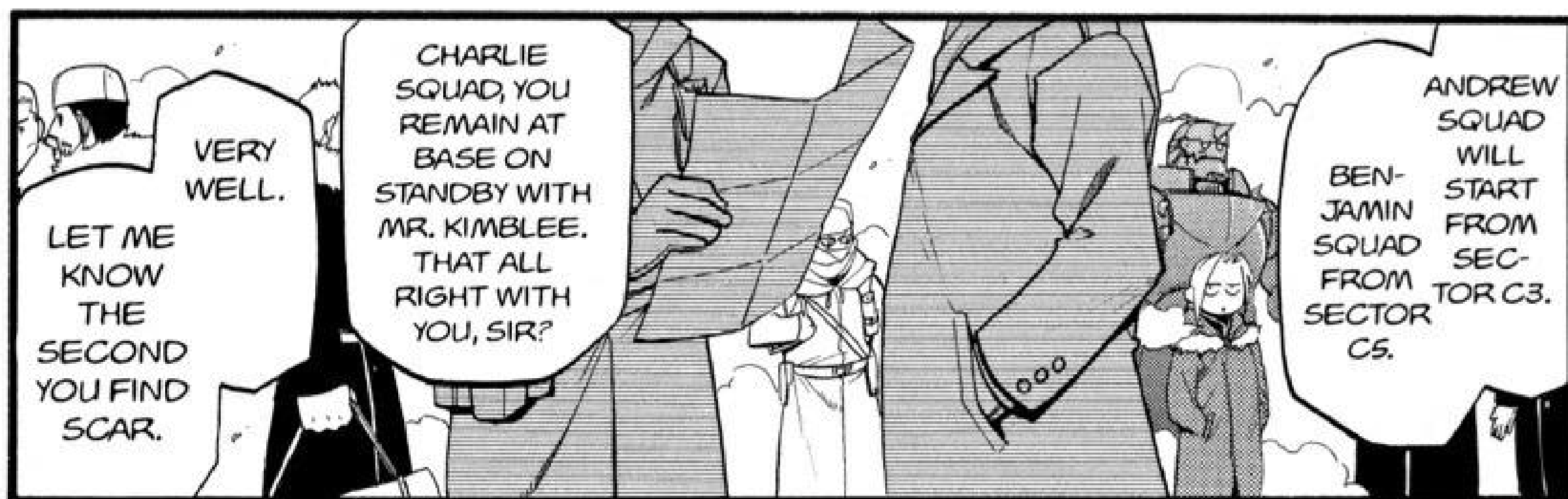


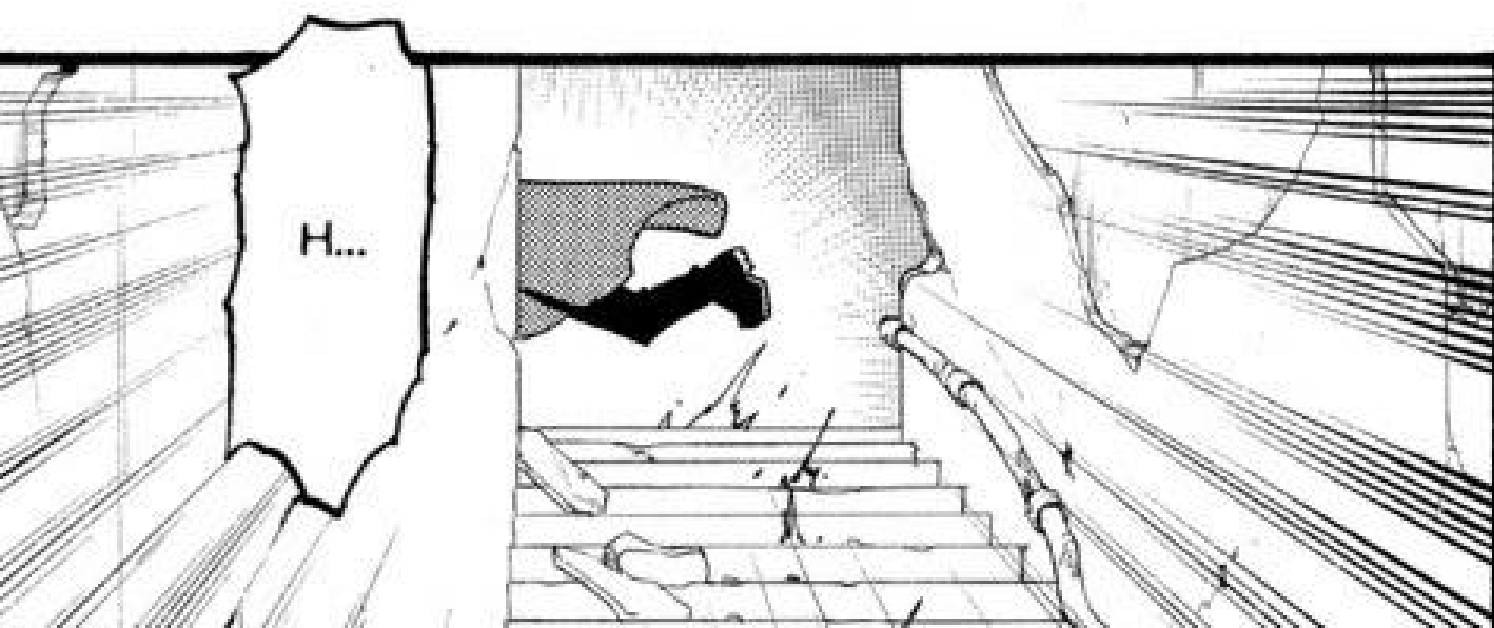
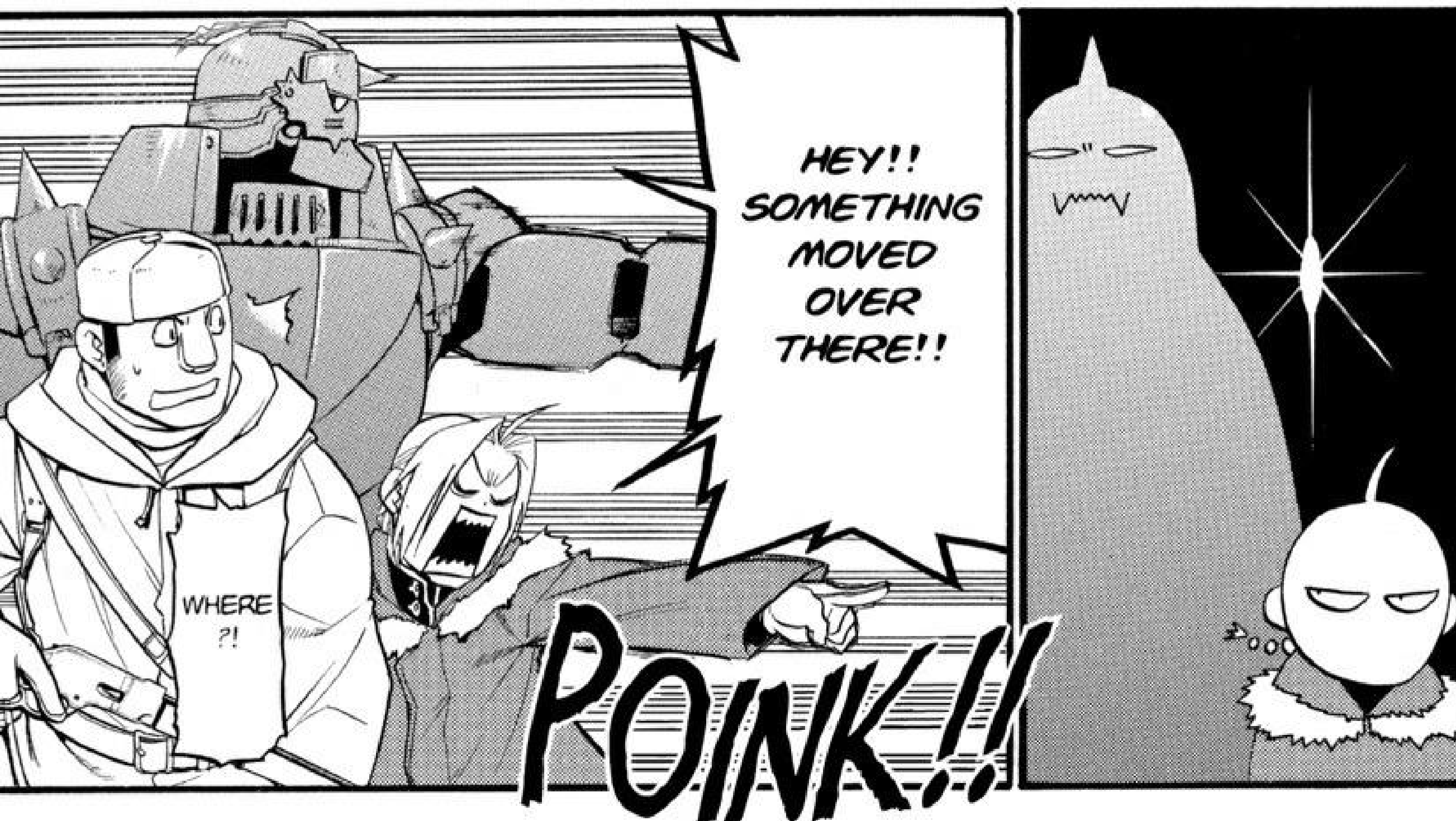
YES, SIR

DARIUS...
RIDE IN MS. WINRY'S CAR.

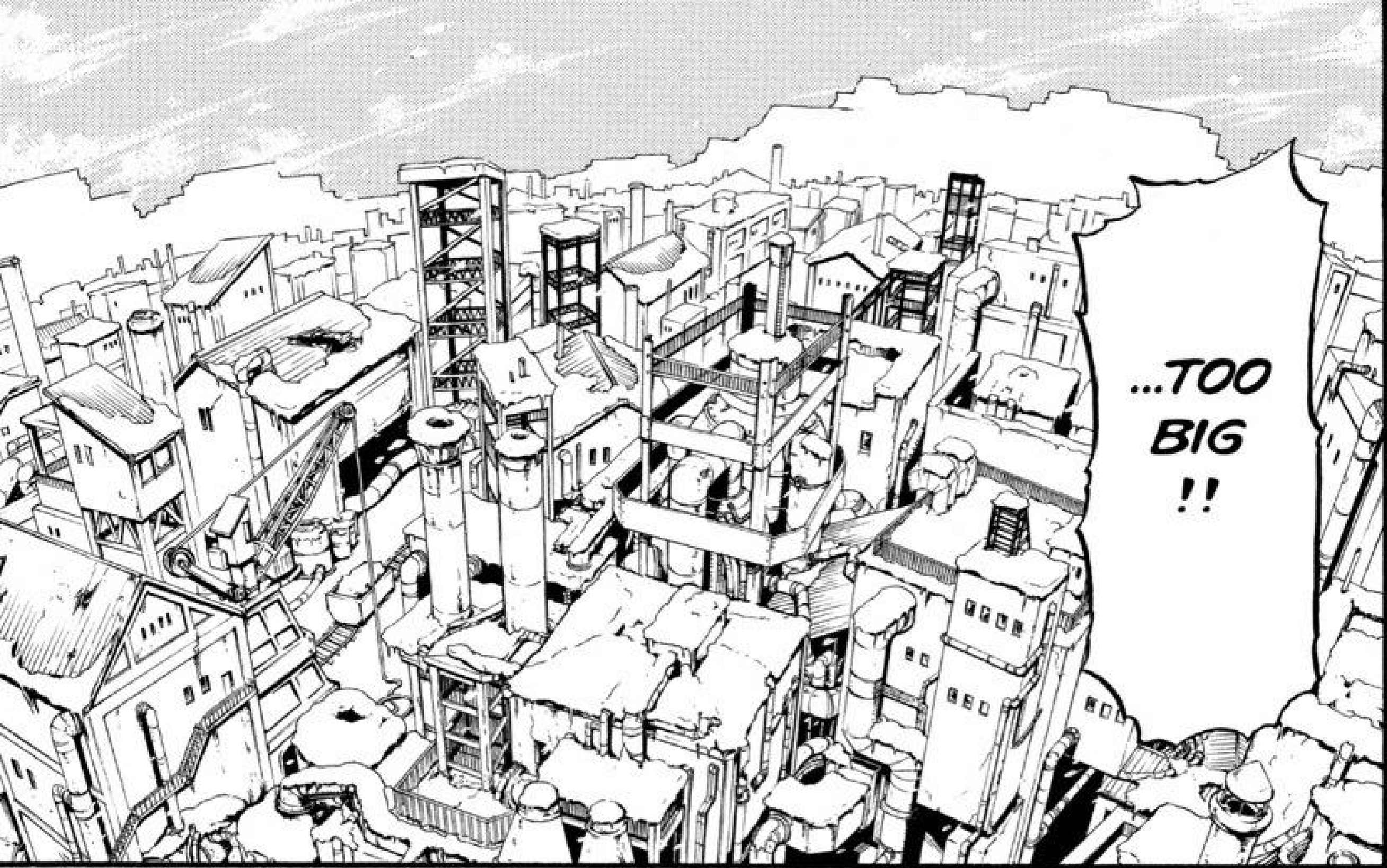










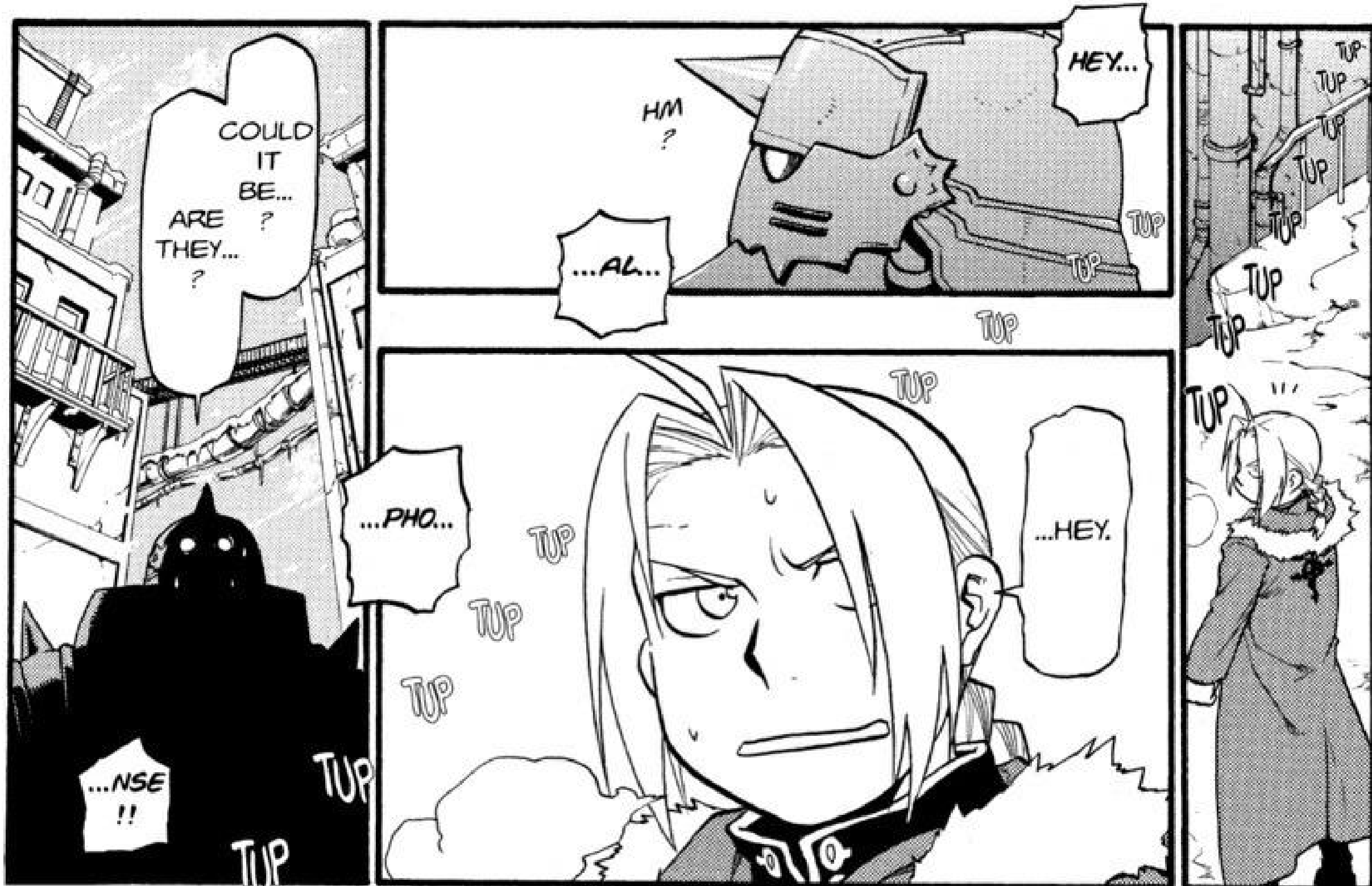


...TOO
BIG
!!



SLUMP

THE ONLY
WAY WE
COULD
FIND THEM
HERE IS
IF *THEY*
FOUND
US!



COULD
IT BE...
ARE
THEY...
?

HEY...

HM?

...AL...

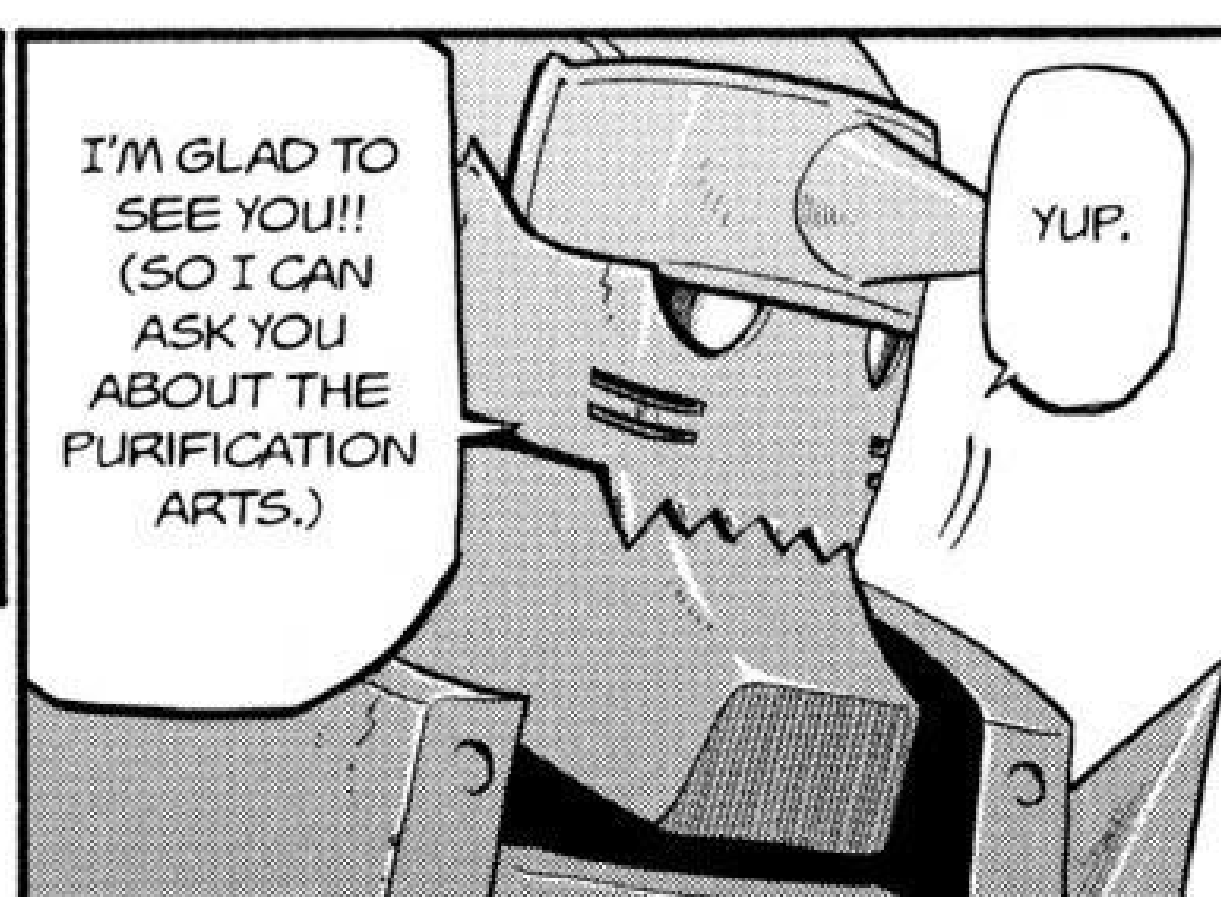
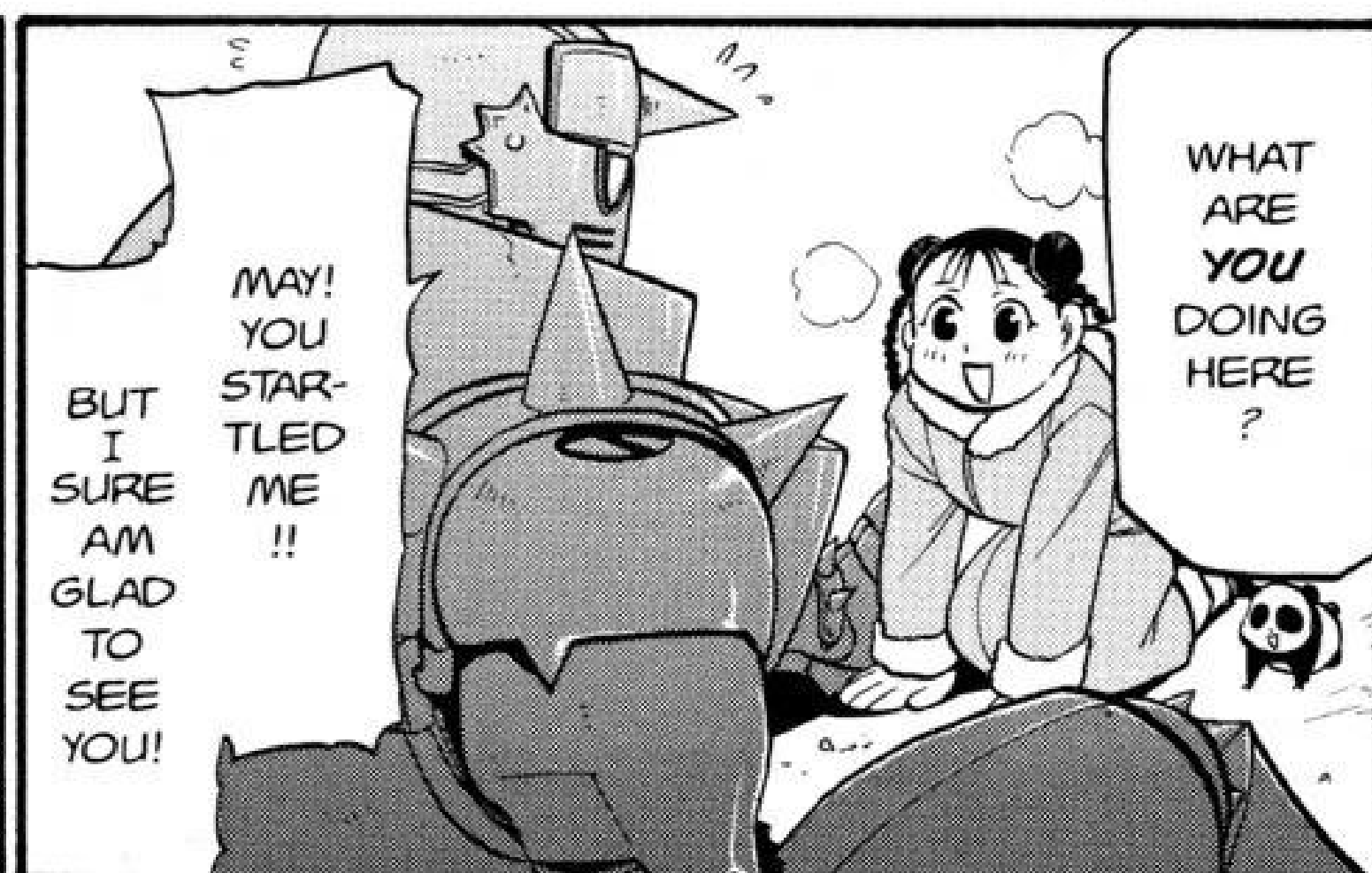
...PHO...

...HEY.

...NSE
!!

TUP

TUP





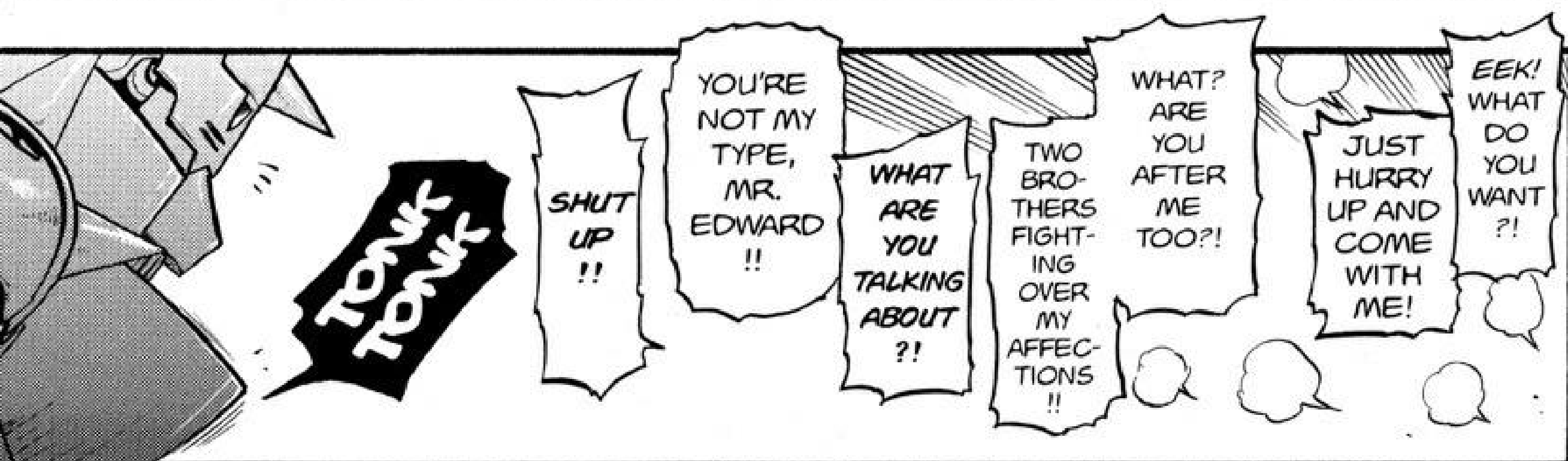
NOOOOOO
!!!
!!!

I'M GLAD
TO SEE
YOU TOO,
LITTLE
GIRL!



UH-
HUH.

ME
TOO...



HUH
?

OH MY!
MR.
ALPHONSE,
WHO IS
THIS
WOMAN?!



OW,
OW,
OW!

PLOP



AL!
I
JUST
HIT
MY
HEAD
!

OH.
SORRY
ABOUT
THAT.

S
N
A
P



I
HEARD
A
SHOUT...

MAY,
ARE
YOU
ALL
RIGHT
?



HOW
COULD
YOU?! I
THOUGHT
I WAS
YOUR
GIRL!!

NO, NO!
SHE'S
JUST A
CHILD-
HOOD
FRIEND
!

BUT...WHY
AM I
JUSTIFYING
MYSELF
TO YOU
LIKE I'M
YOUR BOY-
FRIEND
OR SOME-
THING?!



HUH?!
WHO
ARE
YOU,
OLD
MAN
?!

WHAT?!
THE
ELRIC
BRO-
THERS
?!



OH!!
THAT
VOICE...

IT'S
ME.

I DON'T
BLAME
YOU
FOR NOT
RECOG-
NIZING
ME.



HUH?
WHO
ARE
YOU,
OLD
MAN?

WHAAAT
?!
THE
ELRIC
BRO-
THERS
?!

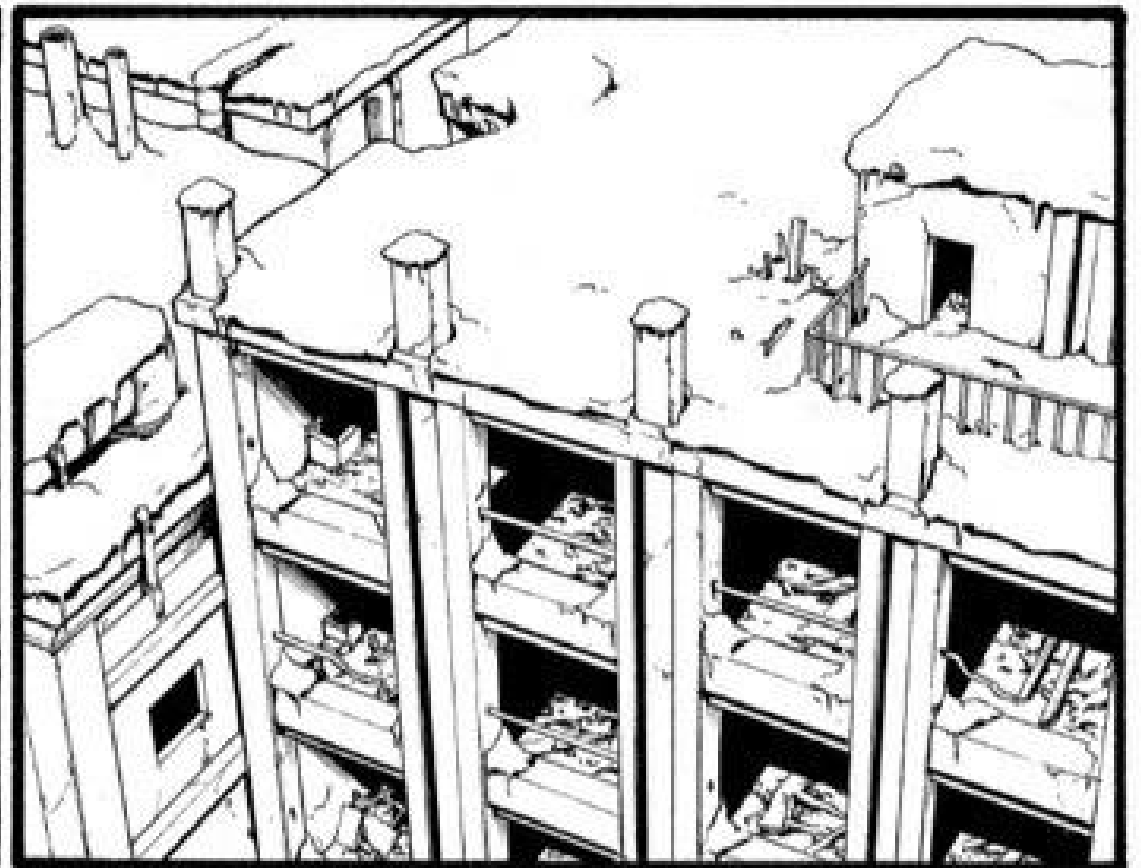


I'D LIKE
TO ASK
YOU
THE
SAME
QUES-
TION.

DR.
MARCOH?!
WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
HERE?!

HUH
?













FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST